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TO THE

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

FOURTH SESSION

OF THE

SECOND LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

2ND MARCH TO 6TH MARCH 1926

VOLUME XXVIII

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Volume XXVIII

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RECEIVED.

PERSONNEL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

Governor of Madras.

His Excellency the Rt. Hon. the *Viscount* GOSCHEN OF HAWKHURST, G.C.I.E., C.B.E. Took his seat on 14th April 1924.

Members of the Executive Council.

1. The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR, K.C.I.E., Law Member. Took his seat on 12th February 1923 and is in charge of the following port folios :—

Civil Justice.
Criminal Justice (including petitions for mercy).
Elections.
Electricity (including hydro-electric schemes).
Foreigners.
Fortnightly report.
Irrigation.
Landlord and tenant.
Legislative.
Magistracy.
Marine (Central subject).
Miscellaneous Judicial heads.
Passports.
Police including Criminal Investigation Department.
Press and registration of books.
Publicity including Editors' Table.
Railways.
Report on matters of political and administrative importance.
State prisoners.
Translators to Government.

2. The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., Member in charge of Revenue. Took his seat on 27th December 1924 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

Agency.
Constitution of districts, divisions and taluks.
Court of Wards.
Economic condition (including prices and wages).
Escheats.
Famine.
General (i.e., questions of a general nature which cannot be allocated to any particular department).
Government Servants' Conduct Rules.
Indian Civil Service—Questions other than leave and appointments.
Land Revenue, Survey and Settlement.
Mines.
Office procedure.
Petition rules—General questions.
Pounds and special funds
Public Services Commission and service questions including examinations and special tests and land returns.
Reforms—not being legislative.
Treasure trove.
Warrant of precedence.
Wild animals.
Yeomiahs, inams and hereditary pensions.

3. The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur, Home Member. Took his seat on the 30th March 1925 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

- Administration report.
- Air-craft.
- Arms and explosives.
- Boilers.
- Census.
- Certificate of age and qualification.
- Criminal Tribes.
- Depressed classes.
- Emigration.
- Forests (including cinchona).
- Government Houses.
- Jails.
- Labour (including factories).
- Laccadives.
- Pilgrims to the Hedjaz.
- Reformatories.
- Regulation of medical and other professional qualifications and standards.
- Rewards for saving life and property.
- Staff and household of His Excellency the Governor.
- Stamps.
- Stationery and Government Presses.

4. The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., Finance Member. Took his seat on 27th April 1925 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

- Central Subjects—
  - Archæology and Epigraphy.
  - Customs (including trade).
  - Ecclesiastical.
  - Income-tax.
  - Meteorology.
  - Opium.
  - Political (other than matters relating to Indian States).
- Central Subjects—*cont.*
  - Post Office.
  - Salt.
  - Telegraphs and telephones.
- European education.
- Finance.
- Military.
- Move of Government to the Hills.
- Pensions.

Ministers.

1. The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL, Minister for Local Self-Government. Took his seat on 19th November 1923 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

- Adulteration of foodstuffs
- Local.
- Medical.
- Municipal.
- Light-feeder Railways and Tramways within municipal areas.
- Public Health.
- Religious and Charitable Endowments.

2. The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO, *Kt.*, Minister for Education and Public Works. Took his seat on 19th November 1923 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

- Education.
- Excise.
- Public Works.
- Registration.

3. The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI, *Kt.*, Minister for Development. Took his seat on 19th November 1923 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

- Agriculture.
- Co-operative Societies.
- Fisheries.
- Industries.
- Veterinary.
- Weights and Measures.

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

President.

The hon. Mr. M. RUTHNASWAMY, M.A., Bar.-at-Law.

Deputy President.

M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI Avargal, C.I.E.

Panel of Chairmen.

M.R.Ry. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR Avargal.
Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo.
Khan Bahadur HAJI ABDULLA HAJI QASIM SAHIB Bahadur.
M.R.Ry. Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU Garu.

Secretary to the Council.

M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR Avargal, B.A., M.L.

Assistant Secretary to the Council.

M.R.Ry. C. SATAGOPA ACHARIYAR Avargal, B.A.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
1. Abbas Ali Khan Bahadur ...	Madura and Trichinopoly *cum* Srirangam, M. Urban.
2. Abdul Hye Sahib Bahadur ...	Ceded Districts, M. Rural.
3. Abdul Wahab Sahib Bahadur, Munshi.	Northern Circars, M. Rural.
4. Abdulla Ghatala Sahib Bahadur (Council Secretary).	North Arcot *cum* Chingleput, M. Rural.
5. Adinarayana Chettiyar, T. ...	North Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
6. Anjaneyulu, P.	Guntur, N.-M. Rural.
7. Ankinedu Prasad Bahadur, S. R. Y.	Northern Landholders II, Landholders.
8. Appavu Chettiyar, D.	Salem, N.-M. Rural.
9. Ari Gowder, H. B.	Nilgiris, N.-M. Rural.
10 Arpudaswami Udayar, S. (Council Secretary).	Tanjore and Trichinopoly *cum* Madura, Indian Christian.
11. Arumuga Nadar, P. K. S. A. ...	NOMINATED for Nadars
12. Bhanoji Rao, A. V.	Vizagapatam, N.-M. Urban.
13. Biswanath Das Mahasayo, Sriman	Ganjam, N.-M. Rural.
14. Boag, I.C.S., G. T.	NOMINATED. (Secretary to Government, Finance Department.)
15. Chidambara Nadar, A. ...	Madura, N.-M. Rural.
16. Cruz Fernandez, Rao Bahadur.	Ramnad *cum* Tinnevelly (Christian), Indian Christian.
17. Davis, J. A.	NOMINATED for Anglo-Indians.
18. Devendrudu, N.	NOMINATED for Adi-Andhras.
19. Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Sahib S.	Salem, N.-M. Rural.
20. Ethirajulu Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur P. C.	Guntur, N.-M. Rural.
21. Evans, C.S.I., I.C.S., F. B. ...	NOMINATED. (Secretary to Government, Public Works Department.)
22. Gangaraju, M.	Kistna, N.-M. Rural.
23. Ghouse Mian Sahib Bahadur, Muhammad.	Central Districts, M. Rural.
24. Gopala Menon, C.	Southern India Chamber of Commerce, Commerce and Industry.
25. Gopalan, Rao Sahib P. V. ...	NOMINATED for Mukkuvans or Fishermen.
26. Guruswami, L. C.	NOMINATED for Arundhateyas.
27. Haji Qasim Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Haji Abdulla (Chairman).	South Kanara, M. Rural.
28. Hegde, J. Naganna	South Kanara, N.-M. Rural.
29. Heggade, D. Manjayya ...	Do.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
30. Kesava Pillai, C.I.E., Diwan Bahadur P. (Deputy President).	Anantapur, N.-M. Rural.
31. Khadir Mohiddin Elyas Khan Sahib Bahadur.	East Coast Muhammadan.
32. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.	Madura *cum* Trichinopoly, M. Rural.
33. Koti Reddi, K.	Cuddapah, N.-M. Rural.
34. Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Malabar *cum* Anjengo, N.-M. Rural.
35. Krishna Rao Pantulu, Rao Bahadur A. S.	Nellore, N.-M. Rural.
36. Krishnaswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur K.	North Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
37. Kuppuswami, J.	Guntur, N.-M. Rural.
38. MacDougall, *Kt.*, Sir Alexander.	European.
39. Madanagopal Nayudu, R. ...	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
40. Madhava Raja, V.	Malabar *cum* Anjengo, N.-M. Rural.
41. Madurai, Hony. Lt.	NOMINATED for Adi-Dravidas.
42. Mallesappa, T.	NOMINATED for Lingayats.
43. Marakkayar Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur V. Hamid Sultan.	Tanjore, M. Rural.
44. Marjoribanks, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. N. E.	EX-OFFICIO.
45. Marthandam Pillai, P. N. ...	Tinnevelly, N.-M. Rural.
46. Maruthavanam Pillai, C. ...	Tanjore, N.-M. Rural.
47. Moidu Sahib Bahadur, T. M. ...	Malabar *cum* Anjengo, M. Rural.
48. Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. T. E.	EX-OFFICIO.
49. Moosa Sait Sahib Bahadur, Muhammad.	Madras, M. Urban.
50. Muhammad Sahib Bahadur, T. N.	Ramnad *cum* Tinnevelly, M. Rural.
51. Muniswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur B.	Chittoor N.-M. Rural.
52. Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M.	Nattukottai Nagarathars' Association, Commerce and Industry.
53. Muttayya Mudaliyar, C. ...	Chingleput, N.-M. Rural.
54. Muttayya Mudaliyar, S. ...	Tanjore, N.-M. Rural.
55. Muttu Chettiyar, P. C. ...	Ramnad, N.-M. Rural.
56. Narasimhacharlu, Rai Bahadur T. M. (Chairman).	Cuddapah, N.-M. Rural.
57. Narasimha Raju, Rao Bahadur C. V. S.	Vizagapatam, N.-M. Rural.
58. Narayanan Nambudiripad, Rao Bahadur O. M.	NOMINATED for Nambudiris.
59. Narayanaswami Pillai, T. M. ...	Trichinopoly, N.-M. Rural.
60. Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.	Madras, N.-M. Urban.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
61. Nicholson, L. C.	Madras Trades' Association, Commerce and Industry.
62. Noyce, C.S.I., C.B.E., I.C.S., F. ...	NOMINATED. (Secretary to Government, Local Self-Government Department.)
63 Obalesappa, B.	NOMINATED for Maruthuvakulars (Barbers).
64. Pandrang Rao, I.C.S., V. ...	NOMINATED. (Secretary to Government, Development Department.)
65. Patro, *Kt.*, The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. (Minister).	Ganjam, N.-M. Rural.
66. Peddiraju, P.	Kistna, N.-M. Rural.
67. Ponnuswami Nayudu, C. ...	Madura, N.-M. Rural.
68. Ponnuswami Pillai, K. S. ...	NOMINATED for Protestant Christians.
69. Prabhakaran Tampan, K. ...	West Coast Landholders, Landholders.
70. Premayya, G.	NOMINATED for Adi-Andhras.
71. Raghuchandra Ballal, K. ...	NOMINATED for Jains.
72. Raja, Rao Bahadur M. C. ...	NOMINATED for Depressed Classes.
73. Raja of Panagal, The hon. the (Minister).	North Central Landholders, Landholders.
74. Raja of Ramnad	Southern Landholders, Landholders.
75. Rajan, P. T.	Madura, N.-M. Rural.
76. Rajappa Tevar, P. S.	NOMINATED for Kallars.
77. Ramachandra Reddi, B. ...	Nellore, N.-M. Rural.
78. Raman, Rao Bahadur P. ...	NOMINATED for Tiyyas.
79. Ramachari, Rao Sahib K. V. ...	Madura, N.-M. Urban.
80. Ramalinga Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.	Coimbatore, N.-M. Rural.
81. Ramalinga Reddi, C.	Chittoor, N.-M. Rural.
82. Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E., The hon. Sir C. P.	EX-OFFICIO.
83. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, A. (Chairman).	Chingleput, N.-M. Rural.
84. Rameswara Rao, G.	Anantapur, N.-M. Rural.
85. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, A. ...	Bellary, N.-M. Rural.
86. Rencontre, A. E.	Anglo-Indian.
87. Ross, T. M.	Madras Chamber of Commerce.
88. Ruthnaswamy, The hon. Mr. M. (President).	Central Districts (Christian) Indian Christian.
89. Sagaram, P.	NOMINATED for Setti-Balijas.
90. Saldanha, J. A.	West Coast (Christian) Indian Christian.
91. Samuel, J. D.	Northern Districts Indian Christian.
92. Sarabha Reddi, K.	Kurnool, N.-M. Rural.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
93. Sarvarayudu, K.	Kistna, N.-M. Rural.
94. Sasibhushan Rath Mahasayo, Sriman (Chairman).	Ganjam, N.-M. Rural.
95. Satyamurti, S.	Madras University, University.
96. Sesha Reddi, B. P.	Kurnool, N.-M. Rural.
97. Seturatnam Ayyar, M. R. ...	Trichinopoly, N.-M. Rural.
98. Sitarama Reddi, K.	South Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
99. Sitayya, M.	Kistna, N.-M. Rural.
100. Sivagnanam Pillai, *Kt.*, The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. (Minister).	Tinnevelly, N.-M. Rural.
101. Siva Rao, P.	Bellary, N.-M. Rural.
102. Srinivasa Ayyangar, R. ...	South Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
103. Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R. ...	NOMINATED for Adi-Dravidas.
104. Subbarayan, Dr. P.	South Central Landholders, Landholders.
105. Subrahmanya Pillai, K. Chavadi.	Tinnevelly *cum* Palamcottah, N.-M. Urban.
106. Sundaramurti, Rao Sahib P .V. S.	NOMINATED for Adi-Dravidas.
107. Suryanarayanamurti Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur K.	Cocanada City, N.-M. Urban.
108. Tangavelu Pillai, Rao Sahib T. C. (Council Secretary).	Trichinopoly *cum* Srirangam, N.-M. Urban.
109. Tanikachala Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur O.	Madras, N.-M. Urban.
110. Uppi Sahib Bahadur, K. ...	Malabar *cum* Anjengo, M Rural.
111. Usman Sahib Bahadur, The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad.	EX-OFFICIO.
112. Veerian, R.	NOMINATED for Adi-Dravidas.
113. Vellingiri Gounder, V. C. ...	Coimbatore, N.-M. Rural.
114. Venkatachalam Chetti, Sami ...	Madras, N.-M. Urban.
115. Venkatachala Padayachi, K. ...	South Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
116. Venkatapati Razu, P. C. ...	Vizagapatam, N.-M. Rural
117. Venkatarama Ayyar *alias* V. Pantulu Ayyar.	Tanjore, N.-M. Rural.
118. Venkataramana Ayyangar, C. V.	Coimbatore, N.-M. Rural.
119. Venkatarama Sastriyar, T. R. (*Advocate-General*).	NOMINATED.
120. Venkatarangam Nayudu, C. ...	North Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
121. Venkataratnam, B.	Godavari, N.-M. Rural.
122. Venkatareddi Nayudu, *Kt.*, Rai Bahadur Sir K.	Do.
123. Virappa Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur P. K. A. Ct.	Ramnad, N.-M. Rural.
124. Windle, Capt. E. G. ...	Madras Planters.
125. Wood, C. E.	Madras Chamber of Commerce.
126. Zamindar of Kallikota and Atagada Estates.	NOMINATED for backward tracts
127. Zamindar of Kurupam ...	Northern Landholders I, Landholders.

SPECIAL MEMBERS.

Name of member.	Purpose for which nominated.
128. Gopalaswami Ayyangar, Rai Bahadur N.	NOMINATED for the Madras District Municipalities Act Amendment Bills and the Madras Village Panchayats Act Amendment Bill.
129. Ramachandra Ayyar, Diwan Bahadur T. R.	NOMINATED for the Malabar Tenancy Bill.
130. Raman Menon, K. P.	Do.
131. Symons, Maj.-Genl. T. H. ...	NOMINATED for the Registration of Nurses and Midwives Bill. (Surgeon-General to the Government of Madras.)

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

Fourth Session of the Second Legislative Council under the Government of India Act.

VOLUME XXVIII.

Tuesday, the 2nd March 1926.

The House met at 11 o'clock, with Mr. President (the hon. Mr. M. RUTHNASWAMY, M.A., Bar.-at-Law) in the chair.

PRESENT:

Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E., The hon. Sir C. P.
Marjoribanks, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. N. E.
Usman Sahib Bahadur, The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad.
Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. T. E.
Raja of Panagal, The hon. the.
Patro, *Kt.*, The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Sivagnanam Pillai, *Kt.*, The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N.
Abbas Ali Khan, Mr.
Abdulla Ghatala Sahib, Mr.
Adinarayana Chettiyar, Mr. T.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
Arpudaswami Udayar, Mr. S.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.
Boag, Mr. G. T.
Chidambara Nadar, Mr. A.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Sahib S.
Ethirajulu Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur P. C.
Evans, C.S.I., Mr. F. B.
Gopala Menon, Mr. C.
Gopalan, Rao Sahib P. V.
Guruswami, Mr. L. C.
Haji Qasim Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Haji Abd-ul-lah.
Hegde, Mr. Naganna.
Heggade, Mr. D. Manjayya.
Kesava Pillai, C.I.E., Diwan Bahadur P.
Khadir Mohiddin Elyas Khan Sahib, Mr.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.
MacDougall, *Kt.*, Sir Alexander.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Madurai, Honorary Lieutenant.
Marthandam Pillai, Mr. P. N.
Maruthavanam Pillai, Mr. C.
Moidu Sahib, Mr. T. M.
Muniswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur B.
Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. C.
Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. S.
Narasimhacharlu, Rai Bahadur T. M.
Narasimha Raju, Rao Bahadur C. V. S.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Noyce, Mr. Frank, C.S.I., C.B.E., I.C.S.
Obalesappa, Mr. B.
Pandrang Row, Mr. V.
Pantulu Ayyar, Mr. V.
Peddiraju, Mr. P.
Ponnuswami Nayudu, Mr. C.
Prabhakaran Tampan, Mr. K.
Raja, Rao Bahadur M. C.
Raja of Ramnad.
Rajan, Mr. P. T.
Ramachandra Reddi, Mr. B.
Raman, Rao Bahadur P.
Ramalinga Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
Ramalinga Reddi, Mr. C.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Rencontre, Mr. A. E.
Ross, Mr. T. M.
Sagaram, Mr. P.
Saldanha, Mr. J. A.
Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Sarabha Reddi, Mr. K.
Sarvarayudu, Mr. K.
Satyamurti, Mr. S.
Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Seturatnam Ayyar, Mr. M. R.
Sitarama Reddi, Mr. K.
Sitayya, Mr. M.
Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. R.
Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subramania Pillai, Mr. K. Chavadi.
Sundaramurti, Rao Sahib P. V. S.
Suryanarayanamurti Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur K.
Symons, Major-General T. H.
Tangavelu Pillai, Rao Sahib T C.
Veerian, Mr. R.
Vellingiri Gounder, Mr. V. C.
Venkatachala Padayachi, Mr. K.
Venkataramana Ayyangar, Mr. C. V.
Venkatarama Sastri, Mr. T. R.
Venkatarangam Nayudu, Mr. C.
Venkataratnam, Mr. B.
Venkatareddi Nayudu, *Kt.*, Rai Bahadur Sir K.
Wood, Mr. C. E.

I

NEW MEMBER.

M.R.Ry. C. VENKATARANGAM NAYUDU Garu made the prescribed affirmation of allegiance to the Crown, and then took his seat.

II

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No.* 15 *on the* 4*th December* 1924—

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The Secretary shall call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Civil Justice.

Committee to consider the question of High Court establishment.

*1475 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are contemplating the appointment of a committee to consider the whole question of High Court establishment;

(*b*) if so, when the committee is likely to be constituted; and

(*c*) whether the proposed committee will go into the question of re-organization and retrenchment?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

Criminal Investigation Department.

Investigation into crimes in the Ceded districts.

*1476 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any detailed investigation into grave crimes in the Ceded districts has been made;

(*b*) whether any result has been arrived at as regards their causes and the means to prevent the said crimes;

(*c*) what, if any, are the special measures proposed or recommended in the matter;

2nd March 1926]

(*d*) what steps, if any, the Government have taken or propose to take in this connexion ; and

(*e*) whether any special staff is proposed to be appointed in the localities for the purpose of putting down crime after detailed investigation into the matter ?

A.—(*a*) A special staff of one inspector and two sub-inspectors was sanctioned in 1923 to investigate the question of the manufacture and disposal of bombs, the increasing use of which in connexion with the commission of crime in the districts of Kurnool and Cuddapah was at that time a disturbing feature. In 1925 it was reported that this special staff had produced good results and that the use of bombs for the commission of crimes had diminished.

(*b*), (*c*) & (*d*) Crime has always been heavy in the Ceded districts and is due to the prevalence of faction, the existence of a number of criminal tribes and the backwardness of the area. Apart, however, from the bomb outrages, the crime presents no special features to call for particular investigation or treatment.

(*e*) No.

Irrigation.

Construction of a dam at Kilikudu.

*1477 *Q.*—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is finally settled to build a dam at Kilikudu (Trichinopoly district) ; and

(*b*) whether the villagers protest against the dam being built at the spot proposed ?

A.—The construction of the dam was sanctioned in December 1924. It was then proposed to construct it for a length of some 4,000 feet above the place where the breach occurred in the floods and some 2,000 feet below. In consequence of a petition, the Chief Engineer has been asked to report further about the height of the dam and the possibility of dispensing with the section proposed for the length below the breach.

Police.

Circular to sub-inspectors of police regarding uniform.

*1478 *Q.*—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he has sent a circular to the sub-inspectors of police to gather information in regard to their desire to have cross-belts as a part of their uniform ; and

(*b*) if so, what action he proposes to take on the information received ?

A.—(*a*) In pursuance of the undertaking in the answers to supplementary questions asked in connexion with question No. 669 on 30th October 1925, the Inspector-General of Police was consulted in the matter.

(*h*) The Government do not propose to take any action. The supply of cross-belts to sub-inspectors is unnecessary and would involve considerable extra expenditure.

Rao Sahib P. V. Gopalan :—" May I ask the hon. the Law Member what was the opinion expressed by the sub-inspectors, and if they expressed the opinion in favour of having cross-belts ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar :—" Some are in favour of it."

Rao Sahib P. V. Gopalan :—" I wish to know whether European sergeants in the same grade as sub-inspectors are not supplied with cross-belts, and if so why such cross-belts should be denied to Indians."

The hon Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar :—" They are, Sir."

The Police Administration Reports.

*1479 *Q.*—Mr. G. Rameswara Rao : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state why, while in the administration report of the City Police the subject of political activities is dealt with in a separate chapter, in the Police administration report for the districts the same is dealt with under the part headed ' Statistics of crime ' ?

A.—The arrangement of the administration report is left to the discretion of the Inspector-General of Police and the Commissioner of Police.

State Prisoners.

Bengal State prisoners in Madras jails.

*1480 *Q.*—Mr. V. Pantulu Ayyar : Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Bengal State prisoners Messrs. Das, Ganguly and Gupta are now confined in Trichinopoly and Messrs. Sen, Sirkar and Majumdar at Cannanore or in any of the Madras jails ; if so, when they were received in this province and the reasons for the same ;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that Mr. Das ever suffered badly from duodenal ulcer and that Mr. Ganguly from nasal catarrh and cystites ; if so, what arrangements were made by the Government for their treatment ;

(*c*) whether any Civil Surgeon or any other doctor recommended to the Government advocating medical treatment for them and, if so, with what result ;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that the above mentioned State prisoners have been put into punishment cells in this province ;

(*e*) what were the privileges allowed to these detenues in Bengal and Burma and in this province ; and

(*f*) if they were deprived of any of the privileges previously enjoyed by them, the reasons for the same and the authority responsible for it ?

A.—(*a*) Certain prisoners have been transferred to Madras jails ; the Government are not prepared to specify the jails in which they are confined or the reasons why they have been transferred to this Presidency.

(*b*) & (*c*) On arrival, State prisoner Das complained of having had duodenal ulcer. At present he has no symptoms of an ulcer. He is suffering from intestinal stasis, for which he is under medical treatment. On arrival, State prisoner Ganguly complained of having suffered from nasal catarrh, headache and cystites. Nasal catarrh and headache improved under treatment. Both are under the treatment of a senior and experienced medical officer.

(*d*) No.

(*e*) & (*f*) They are given the privileges allowed them under the rules framed by the Bengal Government.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to the answer to clause (*a*), may I ask the hon. the Law Member whether these persons are maintained in the Madras jails at the expense of the Madras tax-payer ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" So far as I know, they are not maintained at the expense of the Madras tax-payer."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know whether contributions are made by the Government of India towards the cost of maintaining all these State prisoners in the Madras jails ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I should like to verify it before I can give an accurate answer."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask whether the Madras Government were consulted as to whether there was adequate and proper room for the prisoners from outside the province, before they were transferred, or whether it was a kind of hukum issued by the Government of India which this Government have to obey, no matter whether they have got room or not in the jails ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I am not able to give reasons why they have been sent to Madras."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" I am sorry I am misunderstood. I am not asking for the reasons. I am asking whether this Government have any freedom of opinion or judgment with regard to the transference of non-Madras prisoners to the Madras jails, or whether they have merely got to find room for such prisoners, as the Government of India transfer to our jails ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" This Government have a voice."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask whether this Government were consulted in the matter and if so, what their opinion was ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I am sorry I am unable to say what the Madras Government did on the occasion."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask whether the Government of Madras—I am not asking as to what they said—were consulted before the prisoners were sent to the Madras jails ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Yes ; they were consulted."

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Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to (*a*), the Government are not prepared to specify the jails in which they are confined, may I know why the Government refuse to give the names of the jails ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur .—" We had to carry out the instructions given to us in the matter."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I take it then that the instructions are not to divulge even to the Legislative Council the names of the jails ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" It is not open to me to divulge them."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to the answers to (*b*) and (*c*) of this question, may I ask whether the answer is based upon the report of the medical officers of the prisons where these people are confined, if so, what the dates of the reports are, and whether the reports contain any information other than what is given in the answer ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" The answer is based on the reports received."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask for the dates of the reports ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I want notice."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask if the reports contained anything besides the information contained in the answer ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I do not think so."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know with reference to (*e*) and (*f*) whether there has been any trouble arising here from the difference in the privileges allowed by the rules in Bengal and in Burma ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" No."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Going back to (*b*) and (*c*), may I know whether the prisoner suffering from intestinal stasis is still under medical treatment, and what the latest report about him says ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I think, Sir, he is improving."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask the hon. Home Member to call, from time to time, for reports with regard to the physical condition of the two persons who are admittedly ill and satisfy himself and this House that they are getting the best medical treatment available especially since they are confined against their will and for no crime ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " Certainly, Sir. I shall do so."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—" May I know whether these are not questions that are most aptly to be put in the Assembly and whether it is the function of this Council or of this Government to answer them ? I merely want the information."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" But the question has been admitted. (Mr. S. Satyamurti : ' Hear, hear.')

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Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" May I ask whether these prisoners are allowed the privileges admissible under the rules framed by the Madras Government ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " I want notice of the question. Moreover, I do not know how the question arises when they are to be treated according to the rules framed by the Bengal Government."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" It arises because they are here in prisons situated within the precincts of this Presidency and under the control of the Madras Government."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " I should like to have notice, Sir."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know who pays, Madras or Bengal ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I have answered the question already."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—" Do the rules framed by the Madras Government conform to the rules framed by the Government of Bengal ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " Notice."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—" Clause (*e*) of the question relates to the privileges and there is thus notice given, Sir."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I do not think so."

Land Revenue.

Assignment of darkhast lands to Brahmans.

* 1481 *Q.*—Mr. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) why a darkhast land in Survey No. 125 has been assigned on patta to a Brahman gentleman in Athoor village, Sithayancottai, Dindigul taluk, Madura district;

(*b*) whether he is an ex-military man ;

(*c*) how many acres of darkhast lands were assigned to Brahman gentlemen in various places in the Presidency during the past five years together with the survey numbers, extent of land, wet or dry, remission of tree value made, name of village, taluk and district ;

(*d*) whether they are actually cultivating the lands ;

(*e*) whether they are all ex-military men ; and

(*f*) whether they were not possessing patta lands before such assignments of darkhast lands were made ; and if so, how many acres in each case ?

A.—The Government are not aware of the details of the case referred to in clause (*a*) nor are the statistics asked for in clause (*c*) available.

The hon. Member seems to be under the impression that Brahmans may not apply for or be granted land on darkhast unless they are 'ex-military men'. This is not the case.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"With reference to (*f*), may I know if lands are assigned to those who have already been possessing patta lands of their own?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"Possession of land, Sir, is no bar to further grants of land."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"I have information, Sir, from the agent in the particular village to the effect that one Kuppuswami Ayyar has been granted patta land S. No. 700 and another Brahman lady has also been granted patta land in the same village bearing No. 701."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member must come to his question. He is giving a lot of information."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"May I know why darkhast lands are being assigned to those who are already possessing patta lands and who do not actually cultivate them but lease them to another ignoring the Adi-Dravida darkhast petitioners' claims for assignment of such lands who do not possess a bit of land?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"The considerations advanced by the hon. Member who puts the question are no bar to further assignment."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"May I know, Sir, whether these lands are lands specially set apart for assignment to the depressed classes according to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 1187, dated 5th March 1925?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"I want notice."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"May I know whether any announcement has already been made in the Dindigul taluk with reference to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 1187, dated 5th March 1925?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"How does that question arise?"

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"Out of the answer given by the hon. the Revenue Member."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"I do not know what announcement is referred to."

Public Services.

Employment of Brahmans in Government offices.

*1482 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the number of Brahmans that were employed in various Government offices in the Presidency after the G.Os. Nos. 658, Public, dated 15th August 1922, and 76, Public, dated 6th February 1924, regarding communal representation in public service were passed?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the annual returns of officers in the permanent employ of Government as on the 1st April of each year; these returns are placed on the Council table every year.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"From the statistics, I find that 1,568 Brahmans were appointed in Collectorates on a pay of Rs. 35 and below, in district

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courts 718 and under the heads of departments 778 and 2,198 in mufassal Government offices are getting Rs. 100 and over. I want therefore to know why no regard was paid to the Government Order already quoted in the answer ?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks :—" From the circumstances stated by the hon. Member it does not follow that no regard was paid to the Government Order."

Mr. R. Veerian :—" The Government Order was issued on 15th August 1922 and appointments have been made after that. I want to know why due effect was not given to the Government Order as regards communal representation."

The hon. Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks :—" I do not admit the underlying assumption of the hon. Member's question."

Criminal Tribes.

Occupation of persons registered under the Criminal Tribes Act in Anantapur district.

* 1483 Q.—Mr. G. Rameswara Rao : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many of those registered under the Criminal Tribes Act in Anantapur district since 1913 own cattle and sheep and goats or lands ;

(*b*) how many of them were tending sheep and goats and trading in them and had it as a bona fide occupation ; and

(*c*) how many of them were bona fide agriculturists ?

A.—The Government have no information.

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao :—" May I know whether people who have got honest means of livelihood are also to be registered under the Criminal Tribes Act ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" Of course, if they commit crimes habitually."

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao :—" Are the Government then satisfied that the people who have been registered under the Act are in the habit of committing crimes ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" I think so."

Depressed Classes.

Management of Adi-Dravida schools at Govindapuram and Andapettu.

* 1484 Q.—Mr. R. Veerian : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether my representation, dated 22nd December 1925, addressed to him officially regarding the Government taking up the management of an Adi-Dravida night school at Govindapuram, Vaniambadi, North Arcot district, by the Labour department has been received ;

(*b*) if so, what steps he proposes to take in the matter ; and

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(c) whether there is also any chance of taking up another Adi-Dravida school at Andapettu village, Tindivanam taluk, South Arcot district, by the Labour department about which a mention is made in my representation stated above?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No 1182 at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 18th December 1925. The question cannot be considered until the operations of the Labour department are extended to the North Arcot district.

(c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 1227.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" With reference to (c), as there is a Labour department working in the South Arcot district, may I know why the school in Tindivanam taluk has not been taken over ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I have already answered the question as to the reason why the Labour department has not taken care of the school."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" The answer to clause (b) is that the question cannot be considered until the operations of the Labour department are extended to the district of North Arcot. With reference to (c) which relates to South Arcot, there is a Labour department already working in that district and Adi-Dravidas are applying to take up the management of the school. I want to know why the question has not been considered in this case where the e is a Labour department working."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I should like to have notice of the question."

Mr. F. NOYCE :—" May I point out, Sir, that the question refers to North Arcot and not to South Arcot ? "

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" Sir clause (c) refers to South Arcot, while (a) refers to North Arcot ". (Laughter).

Accidental loss to Adi-Dravidas in Venkarumbur.

* 1485 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : With reference to the answer to question No. 992 asked on 14th December 1925, regarding accidental loss to Adi-Dravidas in Venkarumbur, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to call for the information ?

A.—There was no fire in the village of Venkarumbur and no Adi-Dravida houses were burnt.

11-15 a.m. Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" Sir, May I know by whom the report was made ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" By the Commissioner of Labour, Sir."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" If I send a mahazar of representation from the member of the depressed classes, may I know if the hon. Member in charge of the portfolio will be good enough to make enquiries in the matter ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I shall be most happy to look into it, Sir."

Adi-Dravida school, Sathiavady.

* 1486 *Q.*—Mr. R. VEERIAN: With reference to question No. 993 regarding aid to Adi-Dravida school, Sathiavady village, answered at the meeting dated 14th December 1925, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) why the Sathiavady cheri school intended for depressed classes started more than a year ago was not taken up by the Labour department or rendered any help though a resolution was passed on the matter and submitted to Government on the 13th December 1924 by the depressed classes; and

(*b*) how many pupils are reading in the school?

A.—(*a*) The school-going population in the Sathiavady cheri and the actual strength of the school are not large enough to justify the taking over of the school by the Labour department.

(*b*) Thirty-nine.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"With reference to clause (*b*), may I know what is the minimum number of students that is required?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"About a hundred, I think, Sir."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I know whether they appoint any conductors or conductresses in the case of boys' or girls' schools, respectively, to go and bring students? Or, is it the duty of the teachers to go and get hold of students?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I want notice of the question."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I know if any scholarships are given?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order. How does this question arise from the answer?"

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"Here, Sir, I have put the question with reference to the strength of the school. Unless there are inducements, it is not at all possible to increase the strength. Therefore, Sir, on that point I want to know whether the Government are granting any scholarships, or giving slates and school books free or offering any such inducements so as to encourage and induce boys to come and join in larger numbers, in order to make up the required number."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"That is a subject for a separate question."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"With reference to the hon. the Home Member's statement that about a hundred students will be required before a school can be taken over by the Labour department, may I know if there are no schools with a less number of pupils which have been taken over by the Labour department?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"If the hon. Member gives notice of the question, I shall give the correct number."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" Undoubtedly there are a number of villages where this strength can never be had, and am I to take it that in those villages the Labour department will never think of opening schools ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" What they generally do is this. For taking up a school I think we must have 55 pupils actually reading in it, but we must have a hundred children of school-going age in the locality before we can think of opening a new school."

House-sites for Adi-Dravidas.

* 1487 Q.—Mr. R. Veerian : With reference to question No. 995 answered at the meeting dated 14th December 1925, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) by whom information was given to Government to the effect that owing to faction among the Adi-Dravidas in the Ambattur village, Saidapet taluk, Chingleput district, only five applications were received for house-sites up to the middle of August last ;

(b) whether the Government have already received my representation about the Adi-Dravida Conference held on 2nd December 1925 under my presidency in the Ambattur village containing the statements of the Adi-Dravidas of the village denying the answer given in clause (b) of the question No. 995, dated 14th December 1925 ;

(c) if so, what action the Government intend or propose to take now in assigning the lands for house-sites to the Adi-Dravidas ; and

(d) what have become of the petitions that were submitted to the Tahsildar of Saidapet by the members of the depressed classes of Ambattur village for granting them house-sites up to this ?

A.—(a) The information was based on the report of the Collector of Chingleput.

(b) Yes.

(c) The Government have called for a report.

(d) The Government have no information.

Forests.

Additions to the military grass farm in the Bellary district.

*1488 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) when the military grass farm was first constituted in the Bellary district, and the reserves or portions of the reserves included in it together with the extent thereof ;

(b) the additions since made to it by the Government together with their respective extent, and the years when they were added ;

(c) if this information cannot be easily compiled the additions made to the grass farm within the last fifteen years, together with details as to reserve and the year of transfer ; and

(d) whether the Government have decided to add yet more land to the farm this year and, if so, which reserve and how much of it ?

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A.—(a) The Military Grass Farms department was first allowed to exploit grass in the Sandur forests of the Bellary district in 1904–05; but no information is available as regards the names or areas of the reserves in which the Military Grass Farms department exploited grass prior to 1915–16.

(b) & (c) A statement [a] is appended.

(d) The question is under consideration of the Government.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"What is that particular reserve the addition of which is engaging the consideration of the Government?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"I have stated in answer to the hon. Member's question that it is under consideration of Government. The hon. Member knows what his question is and the matter about which it is asked."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I know nothing, Sir."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"The question was whether the Government decided to add yet more land to the farm this year and if so, which reserve and how much of it. The answer is that the whole question is under the consideration of the Government."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Am I to take it that the Government are not at all contemplating any particular reserves for adding to this farm? Are there no proposals at all before the Government?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"There are certain proposals, and I think the proposal is what addition should be made."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"May I therefore know what those reserves are with reference to which the Government are considering the question?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"I wish to have notice of the question."

Mr. A. RAGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I have given notice enough, Sir. May I know whether the hon. Member has received any petitions with reference to this question?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"I think there are some petitions if I remember right."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Will the hon. Member give the public an opportunity of having their say before he passes orders on the subject?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"I shall consider the request Sir."

Grievances of Forest Rangers.

*1489 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has received any resolution or representation from the Sixth Annual Conference of the Forest Rangers' Association; and

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[a] Vide Appendix I on page 89 infra.

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(*b*) if so, what action he has taken on the various grievances outlined therein ?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) The question does not arise.

Medical.

Alleged refusal of admission into the General Hospital.

* 1489-A *Q.*—Mr. P. Anjaneyulu : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the attention of the Government is drawn to the publication in the correspondence columns of the *Swarajya* dated 13th February 1926 under the heading " A student's tragic death " ;

(*b*) whether Government have verified if the statements made therein regarding the admission into the General Hospital which was refused to the patient, Mr. Gopalasundaram, a Law College student, though he waited from 8-30 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. ;

(*c*) whether Government have also verified if the doctor in the Rayapuram Hospital refused admission in the beginning on various grounds " the more important of which were that it was late for admission, that the patient was not in so serious a condition as to necessitate immediate admission, that . . . he happened to be a Brahman " ;

(*d*) if the answers to (*b*) and (*c*) be in the negative, whether the Government will be pleased to make immediate enquiries into the matter ; and

(*e*) if the answers be in the affirmative, what action Government have taken or propose to take in the matter ?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*), (*c*) & (*d*) The Government have obtained a report [a] in the matter from the Surgeon-General, which is laid on the table.

(*e*) As pointed out by the Surgeon-General, the incident was due not to any defect of system, but to an error of judgment on the part of the medical officer on duty. The Government do not therefore propose to take any special action in the matter. The Surgeon-General will deal with the assistant surgeon departmentally.

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" May I ask the hon. the Minister, first, why the Government have not expressed even the conventional regret for the death of a student, due to an error of judgment on the part of one of their subordinates, as has been admitted in the answer to the question ? "

The hon. the Raja of Panagal :—" The Surgeon-General in his report has expressed regret, and that letter has been placed on the table of the House."

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" With reference to clause (*e*) of this question, we find that, as pointed out by the Surgeon-General, the incident was due not to any defect in the system, but to an error of judgment on the part of the

[a] Vide Appendix II on page 90 infra.

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medical officer on duty. But if we turn to paragraph 3 of the copy of the letter of the Surgeon-General, dated 25th February 1926, we find this: 'Between 9-30 and 11 a.m. the Duty Assistant Surgeon, Mr. K. I. John, whose duty it is to admit the patients into the hospital, saw all the patients who were earmarked for admission and selected the nine cases which he considered were seriously ill and refused admission to the others for want of vacant beds'. May I ask the hon. Minister whether he considers that the want of vacant beds for refusing admission of a case like this is not a defect of the system, and how he thinks it is an error of judgment on the part of the officer on duty ?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Sir, there is only room for a certain number of patients, and the officer in charge has to select the most deserving cases for admission. He thought that the nine cases he selected were the more deserving cases ; and he could not therefore admit the other cases."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" No, Sir ; I am afraid my question has been missed. In view of the sequel, which is the death of this patient, in view of the letter of Dr. Krishna Rao, a medical practitioner recommending that it was a very serious case, and in view of the fact that if there were beds this case would have been admitted, may I ask whether the non-admission of patients for want of beds in a city like Madras, even in serious cases which may end in death and of which only nine were admitted, is not due to a defect of the system ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I believe my hon. Friend assumes that all the nine patients died. But I do not think that all of them died. If the officer in charge knew that the case in question was as serious as it really happened to be, he would certainly have preferred this patient to another patient who perhaps might have been refused admission or he might have made special arrangements to admit him as an emergent patient."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask the hon. the Minister, in view of this answer, whether there is any gradation of illness among serious illnesses, and whether the assistant surgeon in charge has to grade the serious illnesses, not according to their seriousness, but according to the number of beds available in the hospital, and if so, could not the system be improved with a view to providing accommodation for all cases which are serious and which may end as seriously as this case did ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Sir, I am afraid it amounts to a suggestion for action."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Assuming it is, Sir, may I not, as regards the death of an Indian patient in an Indian hospital, suggest to the hon. Gentleman to take some action ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Well, what is the action that the hon. Minister can take in the matter ? The student died and I feel sorry for his death as I feel sorry for the death of ever so many other patients, but it is impossible for any Government to prevent deaths. It is not possible to make provision for all cases to be admitted in the General Hospital."

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Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With regard to the capacity of any succeeding Government, I would not ask the hon. the Minister to anticipate ; but may I know whether he would not take any steps to increase these nine beds to 12 beds or 24 beds, when a case like that has come to his notice, or does he want more deaths to occur before he is going to change this system ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" The extension of accommodation would depend on the availability of funds."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know in view of the statement in paragraph 5 of the Surgeon-General's letter how many European and Indian beds were vacant that day ? It is stated that there were 5 vacant Indian beds. May I know if there were vacant that day any European beds, reserved for European patients ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I should like to have notice of that question."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" I want to know this Sir, because in paragraph 3 it is stated that admission was refused 'for want of vacant beds', but in paragraph 5 that statement is qualified by the words 'Indian beds'. May I therefore take it that paragraph 3 is correct only when qualified by paragraph 5 ? May I know whether . . . "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Vacant beds mean Indian beds and not European beds."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know also whether in such cases any European beds can be occupied by Indian patients ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I think I have already answered that question. Whether there were European beds vacant or not, I cannot say without notice. "

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know whether Indian patients in serious cases can, under the rules, be given European beds if they are vacant ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" If there is any case which is considered to be of such a serious nature, I am sure the officer in charge will find room to admit the patient."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Apart from the hon. Minister's opinion or assurance, I want to know whether the rule is that European beds can be occupied by Indian patients."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" All I can say is that there is no rule to refuse admission of an emergent case. "

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" Paragraph 3 of the letter says that nine cases were admitted. Paragraph 5 says that seven cases were admitted. May I request the hon. the Minister to let me know how he reconciles these two statements ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Sir, according to paragraph 3, nine cases were *selected*."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" I wish to know the meaning of these two words 'admission' and 'selection' of cases. What became of the other two ? "

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The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Selection refers to the preliminary stage of deciding the number and personnel of patients to be admitted. Admission means receiving the patients into the hospital."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" May I know what is meant by saying that there were five vacant Indian beds and that seven cases were admitted? If there are five beds, how can seven be admitted?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" They must have made special arrangements for the admission of those two patients."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" I wish to know whether the hospital authorities are so vacant in mind or brains . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order, order. The hon. Member must really frame his questions in language that could not be considered offensive to anybody, especially to those that are outside the Council."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" May I know whether the hospital authorities could not improvise temporary beds for such serious cases? Is there any provision in the hospital rules to improvise emergent beds for such emergent cases?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" That depends upon the opinion of the admitting officer. If he thought that the case was sufficiently serious he would have made arrangements for admitting that particular case. But in this case on account of an error in judgment the officer in charge thought that the case was not serious enough."

Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI :—" Has the duty assistant surgeon explained why he overlooked the recommendation of a practitioner of the standing of Dr. Khrishna Rao?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" That is a matter of judgment. After examining the patient, he came to the conclusion that it was not a case sufficiently serious to be admitted under the circumstances."

Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI :—" Will the hon. the Minister kindly place on the table a report of the action which the Surgeon-General takes in this matter?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" The Surgeon-General has not yet taken action, but he proposes to take action departmentally."

Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI :—" May we have a report of that placed on the table if and when he does take action?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Yes. I have no objection to place it on the table."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—" It has been stated in the letter that Indian beds were vacant. May I know the other kinds of beds that are vacant?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Obviously European beds."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" There are special beds. There are European beds and so forth."

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Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chettiyar :—" Could not this unfortunate man be put in some special or European bed in view of the seriousness of the situation ? "

The hon. the Raja of Panagal :—" I have already answered that question. If the admitting officer thought that the case was serious enough he would have admitted the patient, he would have put him in a special bed or in a bed improvised for the occasion."

11-30 a.m. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu :—" Is it a fact, Sir, that no two doctors agree in their opinion ? "

The hon. the President :—" It is hardly a question within the cognizance of the hon. Minister."

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" With reference to paragraph 8, Sir, of the letter of the Surgeon-General this is what he says :

'It becomes practically a daily experience of shroffing out those patients who should be admitted and those who could afford to wait and come again another day. It is possible that such accidents will occasionally happen even if the greatest care be exercised.'

" I want to ask the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government, Sir, in view of his answers to-day on the floor of the House whether there is any evidence in this case that the Assistant Surgeon in charge refused to admit the patient on the ground that the Surgeon-General advanced, with which I cordially agree, viz., that it becomes sometimes necessary to refuse admission to those who can afford to wait to come again another day. The Surgeon-General expressed no opinion that he thought that this unfortunate student could wait and come another day. Is it simply a reason of 'no bed'? "

The hon. the Raja of Panagal :—" I cannot add anything more to what I have already stated."

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" In view of that answer, may I ask the hon. Minister to say why the Government say in answer to clause (*e*) of this question : 'The Government therefore do not propose to take any special action in the matter. The Surgeon-General will deal with the Assistant Surgeon departmentally.' Assuming that it is due to want of beds, I want to know why the Government say that they won't take any action to prevent such unhappy incidents in future."

The hon. the Raja of Panagal :—" The Surgeon-General considers that it was only a case of error in judgment and has informed that he would take action against the Assistant Surgeon departmentally. That is the reason why the Government do not propose to take further action "

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" May I ask whether the Government do not therefore propose to increase the number of beds to prevent such unhappy incidents in future ? "

The hon. the Raja of Panagal :—" The question of reconstructing the General Hospital is engaging the attention of the Government. If funds are available, more accommodations will be provided in the new hospital."

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Education.

Scholarships to girl pupils.

* 1490 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) why scholarships for girls awarded by the Educational Department are given only from Form I onwards;

(b) whether the Government consider it advisable to award scholarships at least in the case of depressed class girls from IV standard or V standard upwards with a view to spread female education among them;

(c) whether the Government observe any age restrictions also while awarding scholarships; and

(d) if so, how the age restrictions are observed in the case of girl students reading in municipal areas and those reading in non-municipal areas?

A.—(a) Some special scholarships are awarded to Mappilla girls and Hindu and Muhammadan widows from standard IV. General scholarships are awarded only from Form I in secondary schools and standard VI in elementary schools because there is a considerable falling off in the strength of Form I as compared with the strength of Class V, the maximum fee up to standard V of an elementary school being only one anna a month. The scholarships are awarded to induce pupils to continue their education beyond the primary school stage.

(b) Scholarships tenable from standards IV and V are being awarded by the Labour Department to pupils belonging to depressed classes.

(c) Yes.

(d) In regard to ordinary scholarships, no difference is made in the matter of age between girls reading in municipal areas and girls reading in non-municipal areas. In the case of special scholarships for pupils of the depressed classes awarded by the Labour Department, however, the age limit is two years higher in non-municipal areas than in municipal areas. With effect from the next school year this difference will be abolished.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"In the answer given to clause (a) I find in the first part: 'Some special scholarships are awarded to Mappilla girls and Hindu and Muhammadan widows from standard IV.' Considering the poverty of the depressed classes, may I know, Sir, why the same concession was not extended or allowed to the members of the depressed classes?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"I cannot add anything to the answer already given."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"I do not hear anything. May I know why age restrictions are imposed while awarding scholarships to the depressed classes?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Because the pupils of the depressed classes join late in life. Therefore certain restrictions are necessary in their own interests."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" With reference to clause (*d*) I find that, with effect from the next school year, this difference will be abolished. Well, Sir, may I know whether, until then—until that happy day comes—we ought to leave the school for want of encouragement? What are we to do?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" I cannot give any opinion. It is left to the hon. Member."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" With regard to clause (*b*) it is stated that scholarships tenable from standards IV and V are being awarded by the Labour Department to pupils belonging to depressed classes. May I know why the Government should impose such restrictions?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" It is a matter of administrative necessity, Sir."

Prayers of the deputations of the committees of the Catholic Association of South Kanara.

*1491 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state what orders have been passed or are contemplated to be passed on the several prayers of the deputations of the committees of the Catholic Association of South Kanara and of the Kanara Indian Christian Civic League, presented to the hon. the Minister during his visit to Mangalore last year, so far as the Educational Department is concerned, as to (i) recognition of the Catholic Indian Secular clergy and pastors as secondary trained teachers, (ii) larger grants-in-aid, (iii) fixed dates for publication of results of examinations and (iv) due representation of Christians in the District Educational Council?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 1445.

Excise.

Consumption of opium in Ganjam, Vizagapatam and Kistna districts.

*1492 *Q.*—Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATIRAJU : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state the quantity of opium consumed in each year by the people of each taluk in the districts of Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Godavari and Kistna for the last ten years?

A.—The Government have no information but have called for a report.

Co-operative Societies.

Work done by Deputy Registrars of Co-operative Societies.

*1493 *Q.*—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the newly appointed Deputy Registrars of Co-operative Societies are now doing only the same work which they were doing as Assistant Registrars or whether any non-credit work has been actually attempted by them;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that some of them are attending meetings of co-operative societies throughout the month to the neglect of more important duties; and

(c) whether he will be pleased to furnish a statement of the work turned out by the Deputy Registrars for the quarter ending 31st December 1925, the number of societies inspected by them, the number of days spent by them in attending meetings of co-operative societies, the number of days spent by them in 'super-audit,' the number of 'non-credit' societies started by them and the amount of travelling allowances drawn by them during the period?

A.—(*a*) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to the reply given to clause (*a*) of his question No. 1379 asked at the meeting of the Council on 12th February 1926.

(*b*) No. It is part of the duties of Deputy Registrars to attend meetings of co-operative societies.

(*c*) The Government have no information.

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"With reference to clause (*c*), the answer is that the Government have no information. May I know, Sir, whether the Government have no information because no work is done by the Deputy Registrars?"

The hon Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"It is not so."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"Then, how is it that the Government have no information?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"It is not worth while collecting that piece of information."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"Arising out of that answer, may I know whether the hon. Minister does not consider the question of super audit important? Are we to take it, Sir, that in a matter where the public have invested their hard-earned savings to the extent of nine or ten crores the hon. Minister considers the question of audit unimportant?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"If the hon. Member will ask any particular question, I will collect the information."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"The question is so clear that even he who runs may read and understand. My information is that the Deputy Registrars are doing no super audit work and I want Government to tell me whether it is true. It is very important because ten crores of rupees of peoples' deposits are there. The hon. Minister says that he does not consider it important to call for the information. Does he now at least realize that a matter affecting ten crores of poor people's savings is important and will he call for the information?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"I shall call for the super audit figures if the hon. Member wants them"

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"In the interests of the public, Sir, not that I want them."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Yes, yes."

Mr R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—"Does not the Deputy Registrar send any monthly report?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"He does."

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Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" Will not that give some idea of the information now wanted ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" No."

Appointment of a Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

*1494 *Q*.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Personal Assistant to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies was on special duty and if so, how long and what are the items of work disposed of by him during the period of his 'special duty';

(*b*) whether it is a fact that he has been since granted leave ;

(*c*) whether there is any proposal to appoint a Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies ;

(*d*) if so, what are the circumstances necessitating such an appointment ; and

(*e*) the reasons why the matter could not be deferred until the time of 1926–27 budget ?

A.—(*a*) Yes. The Personal Assistant was on special duty for six months. As regards the work on which he was employed during that period the attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (*f*) to question 573 asked at the meeting of the Council held on the 29th October 1925. The Government have not yet received a report on the work done during the period.

(*b*) Yes. But he has since returned to duty.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) The appointment of Joint Registrar is proposed with a view to affording relief to the Registrar. The department has expanded enormously during the last five years and the work of the Registrar has increased both in volume and complexity. It is a physical impossibility for the Registrar, without substantial relief, to find time to deal adequately with the numerous complicated problems which are constantly coming before him, to indicate and control new lines of development and to tour throughout the Presidency in order to keep in touch with the work of his subordinates, of the financing banks and of the more important special type of societies. More money is coming into the movement than it has been able to absorb and is mostly in the shape of short-term loans while the demand now is for long-term loans. The regulation of the financial arrangements of the movement as a whole requires the constant attention of the Registrar in order to ensure the safety and soundness of the system. He has to control and co-ordinate the work of the Deputy Registrars in regard to non-credit work. Moreover, there are and always will be many problems connected with non-credit activities which have to be settled on lines applicable to the Presidency as a whole and not

merely with reference to local conditions. To enable the Registrar to cope with all these items of work and to allow co-operation to attain its natural growth the post of Joint Registrar is proposed to be created. The new officer will take over certain definite portions of the Registrar's duties subject to the Registrar's general control. He will undertake work which, though essential for the development of the movement, cannot now be adequately dealt with by the Registrar owing to the extreme pressure of other demands upon his time and energy.

(*e*) The appointment will be sanctioned only after the budget of 1926–27 has been passed by the Council.

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" With reference to clause (*e*) the result is here about the appointment of the jont registrar. May I ask the hon. Minister why, when he promulgated his recent scheme of reorganization of the department, he did not ask for this particular appointment ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" The two subjects are quite different."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" The whole department was re-organized very recently. It was then given out that it would be a self-contained and complete arrangement. The Public cannot be so very dull as not to be able to understand it. May I know definitely why it was that this appointment was not foreshadowed on that occasion ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" As I already said, the two subjects are quite different."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" I am absolutely unconvinced they are different. May I know what new conditions have arisen since the recent reorganization to justify the creation of this costly new appointment ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" These are two separate branches. One was considered then and the other was not."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" I am sorry I am not still able to make him understand (Swarajists' Laughter). I shall refer to the printed answer which he himself has given. Perhaps, that will make him understand the matter. At page 8 the argument is given and it is stated :

'The regulation of the financial arrangements of the movement as a whole requires the constant attention of the Registrar in order to ensure the safety and soundness of the system.'

" May I know how the new joint Registrar is going to have the difficult question of financial arrangement managed ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" That is a long statement which will have to be answered more outside the Council than here. It will take a long time."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" I thought the Council is at least interested in this matter as much as the outside public and competent to deal with it and that it is not one which should be answered only outside the Council. If the hon. Minister is not prepared to answer this question, I

shall put him another question which I should very much like to avoid. May I know if all this was with a view to get Mr. M. K. Venkatachariar appointed ?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"How does it arise ?"

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"I bow. Is it not a fact, Sir, that the department in its re-organization has been increased by the appointment of nine deputy registrars costing the Government—rather the tax-payer—several thousands of rupees per month ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"It is a fact, Sir, but the re-organization resulted in a net saving of Rs, 7,000 in the cost of the department."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"And yet, how does the necessity for a new joint registrar arise ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"We feel the necessity for it and go to the legislature."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—"Was it placed before the Finance Committee ?"

Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"It was put before the Finance Committee."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—"What was their opinion ?"

Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"They recommended."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"Has the alternative, viz., the idea of getting on without the present Registrar and appointing in his place one who will go on with his work without asking for new and costly appointments at every step, been thought of ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"I see no reason to do it."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Civil Justice.

Appointment of Additional Sub-Judges.

1495 Q.—Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many Additional Sub-Judges are proposed to be appointed in accordance with the recommendation of the Civil Justice Committee ;

(*b*) to which sub-courts ; and

(*c*) from what date ?

A.—The question of strengthening the Judicial establishments was specifically excluded from the scope of the Civil Justice Committee's enquiry.

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Government Pleaders and Public Prosecutors.

1496 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) in which of the districts Government after enquiry have found that the combination of the functions of Government Pleader and Public Prosecutor in one man is bad in the interests of expeditious and efficient discharge of both the functions;

(*b*) whether duly qualified men though not senior pleaders cannot be found for either of the posts in such districts;

(*c*) whether Government have ever considered the scheme of Deputy or Assistant (stipendiary or honorary) Government Pleaders or Public Prosecutors to relieve heavily worked Government Pleaders and Public Prosecutors, and if so, what their decision is;

(*d*) how the cases in which the Government are concerned are conducted in District Munsif's and Sub-Judge's Courts;

(*e*) whether District Government Pleaders are engaged for that purpose and whether their services are generally available therefor; and

(*f*) whether Government have ever considered the scheme of appointing Honorary Government Pleaders for such courts?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) On the representation of the District Magistrate and the District Judge the appointments of Government Pleader and Public Prosecutor have been separated in the districts of Chingleput, Salem and Trichinopoly.

(*c*) & (*f*) In districts where assistant sessions courts or additional sessions courts are established additional Public Prosecutors are appointed to give relief to Government Pleaders and Public Prosecutors.

(*d*) & (*e*) A Government Pleader is usually appointed for each sessions division and he has ordinarily to appear for Government in all civil cases in which they are interested. The Collector has power, whenever necessary, to engage private pleaders to conduct cases on behalf of Government and to sanction fees subject to certain prescribed limits.

Irrigation.

Digging of an irrigation channel from the Peri eri of Eraiyur village.

1497 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the ryots of Melapunjai village, in Tiruvannamalai taluk, North Arcot district, have petitioned the Collector of North Arcot in 1924 to complete the digging of an irrigation channel, sanctioned, to their tank, from the Peri eri of Eraiyur village;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that they were asked by the Superintending Engineer, after preparing the plans and estimates for the same, to dig a trial channel of about 100 feet, at their own cost;

(c) whether the ryots dug the same and also the channel, as per estimates, for about 3,000 feet, at a cost of Rs. 6,000, paying the same out of their own pockets; and

(d) whether it is a fact that Government did not as yet take up the work and whether the channel has consequently 'filled up'?

A.—The Government have no information but have asked the Chief Engineer to furnish it.

Proposed dam across the jungle stream near Seshancharadi village.

1498 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the ryots of Muthampatti and Kattuveppilapatti, in Salem taluk, applied to Government some time back for putting up a dam across the jungle stream near the Seshanchavadi village and to open canals for irrigating the said villages and whether the matter was investigated by Government;

(b) whether any further action has been taken in the matter by Government and in what stage the matter is; and

(c) if the scheme has been abandoned the reasons therefor?

A.—The Government have no information.

Construction of a reservoir near Melarasambut village.

1499 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether there are any proposals before Government to construct a reservoir by joining the two ridges of two ranges of hills to the south of Melarasambut village in Vellore taluk (North Arcot)?

A.—The answer is in the negative.

Land Revenue.

A memorial from some inamdars of Kasimkota.

1500 Q.—Mr. A. V. BHANOJI RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a memorial from some inamdars of Kasimkota, Anakapalle taluk, Vizagapatam district;

(b) whether it is a fact that the resumption order of the Ummadi Masjid inams according to the B.P. No. 1403 of 13th April 1897 was applied also to Phoktu or Pure Masjid inams of the memorialists, and that they were resumed together with the Ummadi Masjid inams;

(c) what the nature of the tenure of these Phoktu inams was when they were resumed, and whether they were considered as service inams and if so, on what grounds;

(d) assuming that these Phoktu inams were intended as service inams, whether the Government was justified in asking the inamdars to quit their lands wholesale;

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(*e*) why the principle applied to the karnam's service inams was not made applicable also in this case and the lands placed in the possession of the owners;

(*f*) if these inams are considered service inams, whether any duties were stated to be performed by these inamdars;

(*g*) whether any remuneration was paid to the inamdars on the resumption of the lands; and

(*h*) whether the Government will be pleased to call for a full report from the District Collector, Vizagapatam, particularly on the question of occupancy rights of these inamdars, and whether they will be pleased to do justice to the claims of the inamdars?

A.—(*a*) The Government have received a memorial from certain persons who claim to have once enjoyed certain lands as inam in the Kasimkota estate.

(*b*) All the masjid grants in Kasimkota estate were resumed about 1897.

(*c*) The grants were held by the Board of Revenue to be of the nature of service yeomiahs consisting of a share of produce. In some cases they consisted of a share of the produce of specific plots, in which case they were termed 'phoktu'; in others the land a share of the produce of which was assigned was not localized in which case the grants were termed 'ummadi'.

(*d*) & (*e*) The view held was that they were not inam lands but yeomiah grants. The Inam Commissioner in 1863 decided that they were not inam grants and did not settle them.

(*f*) No service was being rendered by any body at the time of resumption and the lands were held by alienees.

(*g*) No remuneration was paid to any body.

(*h*) The case of these grants was fully examined by the Government in 1909 and they decided that there were no grounds for revising the action taken by the Board of Revenue. Persons who thought themselves aggrieved filed a suit unsuccessfully against the Government and the proprietor in 1911. The Government do not propose to reopen the case.

Assignment of land to military pensioners in Palavanchattu village.

1501 *Q.*—Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Government are proceeding to assign a portion of the wet ayacut land in the 'eri' in No. 117 Palavanchattu village in Vellore taluk of the North Arcot district to military pensioners; and

(*b*) if so, whether they have consulted the wishes and the interests of the ryots of the said village when proceeding to make this assignment?

A.—The Government have no information of any such proposal. The land is presumably assessed wastes and its assignment to military pensioners is within the powers of the Collector.

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Assignment of land on darkhast in Palavanchattu village.

1502 *Q.*—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Government propose to convert the channel poramboke near No. 117 Palavanchattu village in Vellore taluk, North Arcot district, into 'ayan' and assigning the same on darkhast; and

(*b*) if so, for what reasons?

A.—No such proposal is before the Government. The matter is within the powers of the Collector.

Assignment of poramboke to military pensioners in Edayanchattu village.

1503 *Q.*—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Special Tahsildar has taken steps to assign a portion of the common pasture (poramboke) of the No. 119 Edayanchattu village in Vellore taluk, North Arcot district, to military pensioners on darkhast; and

(*b*) if so, how many acres of land have already been assigned thus?

A.—The Government have no information. The matter is one within the powers of the Collector.

Assignment of 'eri' to military pensioners in Edayanchattu village.

1504 *Q.*—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the 'eri' survey No. 119 Edayanchattu village, Vellore taluk, North Arcot district, has not been cleared of prickly-pear bushes during the last quarter of a century;

(*b*) whether there is any proposal to assign a portion of this 'eri' to military pensioners on darkhast; and

(*c*) whether the ryots of the Edayanchattu village have protested against such assignment?

A.—The Government have no information. The matter is one within the powers of the Collector.

Education.

Opening of a Board school in Asanampattu.

1505 *Q.*—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that inhabitants of the villages of Asanampattu and Kallapparai in the Vellore taluk of North Arcot district have been for the last twenty years memorialising the authorities for the opening of a Board school in their village;

(*b*) whether the president of the taluk board, Vellore, had promised to have the school established by the month of October 1925;

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(c) whether the villagers accordingly have, on the advice of the Revenue and Educational authorities, purchased at their own cost a locality for the school; and

(d) whether the villages have a large school-going population including children belonging to depressed classes?

A.—(a) The question does not state to which authorities memorials were sent and so it is not possible to furnish information.

(b) Government are not aware of it.

(c) & (d) Government have no information.

Elementary schools for Muhammadans.

1506 Q.—Khan Bahadur HAJI ABDULLA HAJI QASIM SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the number of new elementary schools opened for Muhammadans in the Madras Presidency in the year 1925; and

(b) if no new schools for Muhammadans have been opened, what are the reasons therefor, in view of the fact that as many as 825 new schools have been sanctioned in G.O. No. 1598, Law (Education), dated 16th October 1924?

A.—(a) & (b) All the schools in question are open to pupils of the Muhammadan community though none of them are special Muhammadan schools.

Public Works.

Clerical establishment of the Public Works Department, Bezwada Circle.

1507 Q.—Mr. N. DEVENDRUDU: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) how many members of the depressed classes, the depressed class Christians and the Muhammadans are employed in the clerical grade of the Public Works Department, Bezwada circle;

(b) how many of them are permanent, temporary or acting, what is the length of service of each and what pay they get now;

(c) whether any permanent vacancy fell during the past years; and if so, how many;

(d) whether any member of the above said classes was given preference, taking qualifications, length of service and efficiency into consideration; and if not, why not;

(e) how many members of the abovementioned classes were employed as clerks either permanent, temporary or acting, during the past three years; and how many are in service now; and

(f) whether it is a fact that a fully qualified member belonging to the depressed class Christian community accepted a clerical appointment in the Bezwada circle in preference to his appointment elsewhere on the assurance from the manager of the circle office that he would not be ousted on the principle of communal representation; and whether his services were dispensed with a few days after his so accepting the appointment?

A.—The information has been called for.

III

MOTION FOR THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE TO DISCUSS THE DEATH OF A STUDENT WHO WAS DENIED ADMISSION INTO THE GENERAL HOSPITAL.

[*Note.*—An asterisk * at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

* Mr. SATYAMURTI :—" I rise to ask for leave to make a motion for the adjournment of the business of the Council for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, to wit, the death of a student at Madras who was recently denied admission to the General Hospital. I have got a written statement. I will only add that I am following the House of Commons practice, when after question time, since the answers to my questions are wholly unsatistactory, I want to move the adjournment of the House in order to focus the attention of the House."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" May I point out to the hon. Member that the custom is that no business is done on the day the financial statement is presented. I do not see how the business of the Council could be adjourned. The hon. Member can bring it on the next occasion, as there is no business this afternoon after the financial statement is made."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" That makes it easier for me in substance, Sir. In form, there is nothing against my making this motion. In substance, if to-day afternoon is free, it makes it easy for both the Government and our benches, as we can discuss this matter to-day without depriving either the Government benches or the non-official gentlemen of the time which they might otherwise have set apart for business."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" My difficulty is that there is no business in the afternoon."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" That does not matter, if I may say so respectfully. I do not know if the eloquence of the hon. the Finance Member will take us till the afternoon or not. It may or may not. I am now moving for the adjournment of the business of the House. The Standing Orders and the Rules do not contemplate that the afternoon business of the House shall stand adjourned."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Will the hon. Member kindly say how it is a matter of urgency ? The member has made a statement and that statement is before the House. How is it a matter of urgency ? "

* Mr. S SATYAMURTI :- " I shall make my submission. With all respects to you, Sir, I may say this is a mater of urgency. Here is a case of the death of a student. The Government say that they don't consider it necessary to take steps to stop such things in future. I want to prevent more deaths."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Then the hon. Member will have to modify his statement. Because, if he says that he wants to move for the adjournment in order to call the attention of the House to the death of a student who was refused admission, I am afraid I cannot admit it. He is now modifying his statement and saying that he is moving the adjournment in order to call the attention of the House to a statement made by the Minister and the reasons given by him."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"I am adding the words 'and the statement made by the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government in answer to questions on the matter in the Council to-day'." 11-45 a.m.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon Member can refer to the statements made and not to the death."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"I will, Sir. I have modified the motion thus: 'to wit, the statement made by the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government in answer to questions on the matter in the Council to-day with regard to the death of a student who was recently refused admission in to the General Hospital'."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member might specify that statement, because it must be a definite matter. I must point out to the hon. Member that he would have done better if he had given notice of this motion before I came into the House. The matter has been sprung upon me suddenly. All these modifications of the motion might have been made before coming into the House."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"May I make a submission, Sir? This question was orally answered, or rather answered as oral questions are usually answered, and not until 11 o'clock when I came to this House, did I know that this question was going to be answered. Therefore the necessity for moving an adjournment did not arise till now. But in view of the answers of the hon. the Minister to the supplementary questions, I have to do so. I apologize to you, Sir, for my inability to give earlier notice. It is not due to want of will on my part but due to inability."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Will the hon. Member kindly make a substantially definite statement on the subject matter of the motion?"

* Mr. S. SATYMURTI (passing on his modified statement said) :—"I am sorry, Sir, it is badly written. I write a bad hand usually and to-day it is worse. But I shall read it: 'to wit, the statements made by the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government in answer to questions on this matter, especially, that the Government do not therefore propose to take any special action in the matter' in the written answer to clause (*e*) of the question (No. 1484-A)."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I have received a statement from the hon. Member Mr. Satyamurti, and he asks leave to make a motion for adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—

> *The statements (especially that the Government do not propose to take any special action in the matter) made by the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government in answer to a question in the Council to-day, with regard to the death of a student who was recently refused admission in the General Hospital.*

"I have only to see whether it is in order. I think it is in order, and having read out the statement, I shall ask whether the hon. Member has the leave of the House, especially whether objection is taken by any hon. Member."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I do not think that there is any special urgency about it. As a matter of fact, . . ."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" On a point of order. No speech is allowed, Sir, at this stage."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Is the hon. the Raja of Panagal objecting ?"

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Yes, Sir. I object."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" As objection is taken, I have to ask whether a sufficient number of Members support the motion. (After counting the Members who rose in their seats). As more than twenty Members have risen, I direct that the motion be taken at 2-30 p.m. to-day."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—" What about the other rule that we are not to meet after the Budget speech ?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" There is no rule. That point ought to have been raised earlier "

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—" I thought that the President himself would have raised it, Sir."

IV

ACTS ASSENTED TO BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I have to announce that the undermentioned Acts which were passed by the Council received the assent of His Excellency the Governor-General on the following dates :—

The Indian Ports (Amendment) Act ...	13th January 1926
The Andhra University Act	14th January 1926 "

V

ACT ASSENTED TO BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I have also to announce that the Madras Borstal Schools Act which was passed by the Council received the assent of His Excellency the Governor on the 22nd February 1926."

VI

BUDGET FOR 1926-1927.

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" Mr. President, it is my duty, Sir, to place before the Legislative Council the Budget Estimates for the financial year 1926–1927 and, in doing so, I propose to adhere to the established convention under which this House is invited first to attend the final obsequies of the last completed financial year and then to hear how the current year has been conducting itself before passing on to the somewhat more speculative region of our prospects and intentions for the year to come.

Accounts, 1924-1925.

" Our point of departure is, therefore, the final accounts of 1924–1925 which closed with a revenue of 1,627·59 lakhs and an expenditure of 1,657·07 lakhs, the deficit thus being 29·48 lakhs.

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This was an improvement on the figures of the revised estimate which anticipated a deficit of 41·86 lakhs. But the true comparison is with the original Budget Estimates which anticipated a revenue of 1,677·22 lakhs and an adjusted expenditure of 1,683·09 * lakhs and such improvement as the figures indicate was fallacious and gave no real cause for satisfaction. The actual revenue showed a further fall of 3·48 lakhs as compared with the revised estimate and the reduction in the total adjusted expenditure of 26·02 lakhs represented mainly postponed commitments or schemes of which, although they had not been brought into effect to the extent anticipated, the full liability remained. As compared with the Budget Estimate of 1,677·22 lakhs, the actual revenues were 1,627·59, a fall of 49·63 lakhs, Land Revenue accounting for 21·31 lakhs and Excise for no less than 23·54 lakhs of this serious shortcoming. On the expenditure side, the most notable increases were a sum of 22·92 lakhs booked under head "52. Extraordinary Charges" and an increase of 19·45 lakhs under "Public Health." The former is an indication by no means complete of the bill which the country has had to pay and is still paying for the floods and cyclones of that year: the latter represents a book transaction, grants to this extent for water-supply and drainage schemes having been written back to the revenue account from the capital head under which they had been wrongly shown. Short expenditure under "Civil Works" of 15·23 lakhs, a write-back of nearly 6 lakhs under "Forest" from revenue to capital, and general savings under the other administrative heads helped to decrease the gap between the revenue and the expenditure of the year but, as I have already stated, in many cases liabilities were merely postponed.

"Turning now to the Loans Budget of 1924-1925, the total amount available was 130·17 lakhs which was utilized in the following manner:—The net loans and advances by the Provincial Government amounted to 66·21 lakhs; total disbursements under Capital Heads to 18·19 lakhs; while 29·48 lakhs was required to meet the revenue deficit, leaving a balance of 16·29 lakhs. The Revised Estimate had indeed anticipated disbursements amounting to 146·26 lakhs including a much larger revenue deficit. But the actuals showed a decrease of 14·58 lakhs under Capital Heads mainly due to the fact that, under the orders of the Secretary of State, a provision of 12·22 lakhs for grants to local bodies for water-supply

		LAKHS.
* As in the Civil Budget Estimates for 1924-1925	..	1,662·04
Add equated payment towards principal	..	11·55
Repayment towards the old Provincial Loan Account	..	9·50
Total	..	1,683·09

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and drainage schemes was transferred to the revenue account to which it properly belongs. A sum of 7·77 lakhs relating to previous years was also written back to Revenue. There were, on the other hand, transfers from the Revenue to the Capital account in respect of commercial concerns in the Forest and Industries Departments, and under Loans and Advances by Provincial Governments actual requirements were 5·42 lakhs less than was anticipated. As a result of these variations, the Capital account had, as I have stated, an unutilized balance of 16·29 lakhs which was carried forward to the current year.

Budget estimate, 1925-1926. "The Council will, I think, agree with me that a year which closed with a loss under revenue of 50 lakhs as compared with budget anticipations and added 30 lakhs to our unproductive debt—a sum which would have been largely increased had the commitments of the year been met in full—not only calls for no regrets in retrospection but contained the seeds of serious financial anxieties. At any rate my predecessor in framing his budget for the current year had to deal with revenues which were showing signs of atrophy, with existing commitments to which they were unequal, and with demands for further expenditure which were stimulated by the inevitable reaction against a period of short commons and rigid economy. The estimates of revenue for the current year were, as he stated on their introduction, necessarily framed on a comparatively conservative

12 noon. basis. They amounted to 1,651·79 lakhs, an apparent improvement of nearly 24 lakhs over the actuals of 1924–1925. As a matter of fact, however, a sum of 12·85 lakhs was due entirely to one of those book transactions which from time to time complicate our accounts. In this particular case, there was a change in the method of accounting for the cost price of opium. The remaining 11 lakhs were accounted for by a series of *plus* and *minus* variations of which the following were the more important: Land Revenue was expected to show an improvement of $10\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, interest receipts of $4\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, Registration and Civil Works of 1 lakh each; Miscellaneous Receipts and Adjustments between the Central and Provincial Governments were expected to show an increase of $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, while reduced expenditure under Working Expenses on Irrigation and connected works was expected to improve our general resources by a sum of 9 lakhs; on the other hand, normal Excise revenue was expected to show a reduction of $3\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs, Stamps a reduction of 3 lakhs, Industries of $3\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs and receipts in aid of superannuation of $2\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs; receipts under Forests and Education were expected to be less by 1 lakh and Rs. 60,000, respectively, and under Taxes on Income no receipts were anticipated against $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs in 1924–1925.

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"I would first examine how far these revenue anticipations are likely to be realized and call attention to any important variations indicated by the actuals for the period of nine months, the latest for which figures are available. The revised estimate for 1925–1926 is 1,641·96 lakhs or 9·83 lakhs less than the budget estimate. To arrive at the true figure, however, two adjustments must be made. In the first place as a result of improved income-tax collections we now expect to receive a sum of 3 lakhs under the operation of Devolution Rule 15, whereas the budget estimate anticipated no receipt under this head. Against this welcome windfall, however, has to be set a loss of 1·94 lakhs under Miscellaneous Adjustments between the Central and Provincial Governments. This is the result of the decision of the Government of India announced in the budget speech of the Finance Member that a refund of customs duty would in future be withdrawn from those provinces to which a part remission of their contributions to the Government of India under Devolution Rule 18 had been allowed. Revised estimate, 1925–1926.

"The net fall anticipated under all Revenue heads is therefore 10·89 lakhs. We may now examine the causes of this to us somewhat serious loss. In the first place our expenditure under Revenue head XIII. Irrigation and other works—for which Capital Accounts are kept—is expected to exceed the budget estimate by 5·26 lakhs and thereby automatically reduce the net revenue to the same extent. This is mainly due to increased expenditure on the repair of damages caused by those floods and cyclones from which we have suffered so much in recent seasons and have not been immune in the current year. Omitting this item there is a net deficit of 5·63 lakhs under other heads, the result of increases amounting to 13·27 lakhs and of decreases amounting to 18·90 lakhs. I propose to confine attention to the more important of the items thus affected rather than to those departmental receipts which while in the aggregate they form a not unwelcome addition to our resources necessarily show individual fluctuations from year to year. The most important increase is under Stamps, 5·43 lakhs. Under Civil Works an increase of 1·90 lakhs is mainly accounted for by recoveries from the Travancore and Cochin Darbars on account of previous expenditure from revenue on works connected with the Cochin Harbour operations. This is a non-recurring receipt. An increase of 1·54 lakhs under "Receipts in aid of superannuation" is also almost entirely due to payment of arrears by the Central Government and other Provincial Governments, while other recoveries of a non-recurring character account for an increase of 1·76 lakhs under 'Miscellaneous.' Of the more important decreases, that of ·65 lakhs under Land Revenue is the net result of considerable variations

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under certain minor heads. Collections are expected to be 6·40 lakhs less than the budget estimate, and under refunds, payment to local boards of arrears of land cess relating to 1923–1924 and 1924–1925 will reduce our net receipts by a further sum of 7 lakhs. Fortunately, inclusion fees in the West Gōdāvari and Kistna districts, and other non-recurring items come to our rescue and help to increase miscellaneous receipts by 12·74 lakhs.

"'Excise' is expected to show a decrease of 12·10 lakhs, and, as I shall show when I come to deal with the budget estimates for next year, there is from the financial point of view no consoling factor in this case, which apparently represents a permanent and cumulative loss of revenue beyond even our anticipations. Under Forests a decrease of 3·19 lakhs is mainly due to book transactions arising out of the introduction of commercial accounts.

"If we turn now to the expenditure side, it has to be remembered that the budget estimate of 1,622·21 lakhs did not include subsequent appropriations or supplemental grants from the balance of 29·58 lakhs available for further expenditure out of the part remission of our contribution to the Government of India. These appropriations amounted to 28·28 lakhs, of which 1·36 lakhs relating to urgently required protective works was taken to the revenue head "XIII. Irrigation—Working Expenses". The net addition to the expenditure heads was therefore 26·92 lakhs and the total expenditure thus provided for amounted to 1,649·13 lakhs. Our actual expenditure is, however, expected to amount to only 1,635·77 lakhs, leaving a revenue surplus of 6·19* lakhs to the disposal of which I shall make subsequent reference.

"This short expenditure is itself a result of *plus* and *minus* variations of which a full explanation is given in the Secretary's memorandum. The more important are an increase of 1·08 lakhs under Land Revenue due to the new procedure for accounting for the Government share of demarcation charges under the Survey and Boundaries Act, 1923, an increase of 8·26 lakhs under 15. Irrigation, owing to heavy additional expenditure on flood damages and an increase of 5·10 lakhs under 22. General Administration, the main contributory causes being the constitution of a new Public Works Secretariat, smaller recoveries for income tax services, travelling allowances for the Legislative Council and the debit to this head of its share of the detailed distribution among departments of the cost of concessions under the Lee Commission for which a lump provision was originally made under 47. Miscellaneous. 33. Public Health takes 1·24 lakhs more.

* The Revised estimate for 1925-1926 as given in the Civil Budget Estimate is 1,641·96 lakhs which includes the anticipated surplus of 6·19 lakhs.

"Short expenditure or savings are indicated mainly under 19. Interest on ordinary debt, 2·98 lakhs, 24. Administration of Justice, ·52 lakhs, 26. Police, 4·05 lakhs, 31. Education, 3·51 lakhs, 35. Industries, 1·52 lakhs and 45. Superannuation Allowances and Pensions, 3·23 lakhs. A saving of 1·30 lakhs under 6. Excise is mainly due to a reduction in the cost price of opium. The savings of 3·44 lakhs under 46. Stationery and Printing are due almost entirely to a fall in the cost of paper and smaller purchases for stock.

"The Revised Estimate of our Loans Budget for the current year does not call for detailed comment. Our original requirements of 101·21 lakhs were reduced in July last to 88·61 lakhs when it was ascertained that there would be a balance carried forward from the previous year which as finally fixed was 16·29 lakhs and, as will be seen from the fact that we now expect to carry a balance of 6¾ lakhs forward to 1926–1927, we have managed to keep our disbursements within the limits thus fixed. The main items of variation on the disbursement side have been an increase of 1·21 lakhs in capital outlay on Forests, an increase in the capital expenditure on Irrigation Works of 8·38 lakhs accounted for by unforeseen expenditure on the Polavaram Island Project, on the Kattalai Canal Scheme and the Bezwada Canal Regulators. Against these may be set a decrease in capital expenditure on Civil Works amounting to 8·21 lakhs and in our *net* Loans and Advances of 5 lakhs. That figure itself, however, is a result of further variations. Short expenditure on the Cochin and Tuticorin Harbours provides 5½ lakhs, while an additional provision of 6 lakhs for loans to agiculturists was found necessary as part of the campaign for restoring normal conditions in flood-affected areas. Other minor variations and recoveries of 4 lakhs in excess of the budget estimate will leave us a balance of 6¾ lakhs with which the Budget Estimate for next year opens.

"We may now turn to the Budget Estimates for 1926–1927. Under the Revenue heads our total receipts are estimated at 1,634·20 lakhs, or 7·76 lakhs less than the Revised Estimate for the current year. The actual variation is, however, only Rs. 84,000 as a deduction of 40·83 lakhs or 6·92 lakhs in excess of the Revised Estimate has to be made under XIII. Irrigation and other works, for which Capital Accounts are kept. Attention has already been drawn to non-recurring items of receipt in the current year amounting to about 18 lakhs, the most important being inclusion fees in the Kistna district—a sum of 13 lakhs. Our estimates therefore anticipate an increase in our ordinary revenues of about 17 lakhs. To this Budget estimate, 1926–1927.

increase. Land Revenue contributes about $9\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, including a reduction in refunds of $6\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs, Stamps 3·24 lakhs, Forests ·70 lakh, Registration ·91 lakh. The only decrease which need cause us financial concern is a further fall of 1·28 lakhs under Excise revenue. Compared with the corresponding figures* of 1924–1925 there is a total decrease of 17·14 lakhs and of 46·25 lakhs as compared with the maximum revenue of 532·10* lakhs in 1923–1924. The question of Excise policy was very fully debated at the last meeting of the Legislative Council, and, speaking from the purely financial point of view with which alone I am at present concerned, I need only say that we are already faced with a permanent and progressive reduction in revenue and that on the expenditure side, the other financial factor to which I ventured to call attention, the demand for additional staffs to enforce policy—has now made its appearance. Other variations relate to departmental receipts which, as I have stated, are usually of a fluctuating character. Land Revenue, Excise and Stamps are expected to provide $1,479\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs out of a gross revenue of $1,680\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs or 88 per cent of our resources. They are all sensitive to the effects of an unfavourable season as it is and the intromission of new and adverse influences will raise fresh and
12-15 p.m. difficult financial problems. 1,634·20 lakhs is then the best estimate which can be made of the revenues which will be at our disposal for expenditure in the current year and with reference to which our expenditure must mainly be determined. It might seem that the process of estimating expenditure is comparatively simple and all that is necessary is to examine how much we are now spending: if there is anything over, to use it for such purposes as seem most necessary and, if there is not enough, to cut out such items as seem least essential. Now, it is perfectly true that the bulk of our expenditure is recurring and that each year takes over the burden of its predecessors; but the process of annual adjustment is not quite so simple as it seems. There may be a considerable solid and permanent core to our expenditure, but there is a wide ring of superincumbent matter the structure of which is in a constant state of flux. The non-recurring needs of one year are succeeded by the non-recurring needs of the next. Existing schemes give rise to unforeseen expenditure and new processes or methods give rise to demands for new plant or personnel.

		As in Civil Budget Estimate.	Add cost price of opium.	As adjusted.
		LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.
Accounts, 1923–1924	..	518·87	13·23	532·10
,, 1924–1925	..	490·14	12·85	50[illegible]·99
Budget Estimate, 1926–1927		485·85	..	485·85

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Even assuming, therefore, that the work to be done and its cost remained the same, each year would bring its numerous series of adjustments and alterations. Further, even in respect of existing establishments, two factors are at work which make it impossible for us to meet the same requirements or commitments at the same cost. In the first place, with few exceptions, our officers and establishments are on the incremental scales which were introduced with the revision of salaries in 1921. These incremental scales which, save in case of gross misconduct, are practically automatic in their operation, superseded graded cadres in which promotion was less regular in its operation and, as a rule, determined rather by the criterion whether promotion was justified than by the criterion whether there was sufficient cause to refuse it. In many cases, too, incremental scales were substituted for fixed pay. Provision was also made for their application to various establishments which, though classified as temporary, were semi-permanent in character. The minimum pay of new recruits was replaced by the new minima fixed, but, in the case of existing establishments, positions in the incremental scales were determined with reference to the nearest points in the new scales. As a result, the full effect of the incremental system was not at once felt and year by year our charges, even with reference to the same number of Government servants, have been steadily increasing. That process is not yet at an end. For example, in the current year, the additional charge on this account is estimated at 13½ lakhs and for next year a further charge of 9¼ lakhs has to be provided for. Even if no additions had been made to our establishments since the incremental scales were introduced, some years would yet elapse before the average cost was attained: and every addition to those establishments is adding to our lists more employees whose maximum pay will be attained only at the end of the period over which their increments extend. Another item in respect of which our annual charges are steadily increasing is 'Superannuation Allowances and Pensions'. This might seem to be disproved by the figures given in the statement of Revenue and Expenditure but, to arrive at a correct comparison with the accounts of 1924-1925, it is necessary to add to the figures of 1926-1927 a sum of 6 lakhs for the commuted value of pensions and to deduct from the figures of 1924-1925 a sum of 3·95 lakhs representing pensions paid at Bangalore and Trivandrum which were wrongly debited to 'Provincial' in that year. The real increase is, therefore, in the neighbourhood of 9½ lakhs or at the rate of 4¾ lakhs a year. Here, again, we have by no means arrived at a figure representing the average annual cost as the new system under which Provincial Governments

have to meet all pension charges arising since the introduction of the financial settlement has been in force only for a period of five years. Other charges on our revenues which show a progressive increase are the interest on our ordinary debt and the reduction or avoidance of debt. The more we borrow unfortunately the more we have to pay under both heads: and apart from our normal and legitimate borrowings we have, since the Reforms, had to borrow considerable sums in certain years in order to balance our Budget. Apart from these items, each year leaves fresh commitments to the next. Many schemes involve progressive and increasing expenditure over a period of years before full effect is given to them. A new building, for example, may involve expenditure over a period of four or five years; a new establishment may attain its full strength only in a similar period. No department is averse from the ingenuous and modest plea that its latest bantling is only a little one and all departments deprecate undue attention being focussed on the potentialities of lusty growth which their offspring quickly manifest. When all these numerous and complicated calculations had been worked out, it was found that our anticipated revenues would fall short of expenditure to which we are already committed for the year 1926–1927 by 3·91 lakhs; that is to say, in order to balance our budget without providing for any additional expenditure at all, we should be under the necessity of borrowing that sum. At the same time, we had demands from the various departments for new schemes which they regarded with an affection which was as impartial as it was intense, the ultimate cost of which was estimated at 17·52 lakhs recurring and 141·51 lakhs non-recurring. The demands for actual expenditure in 1926–1927 amounted to 11·95 lakhs recurring and 69·59 lakhs non-recurring. A total of 334 schemes were placed before the Finance Committee which gave special preference to 272 schemes, of which the total cost was 66·81 lakhs, relegated 42 schemes costing 12·31 lakhs to a less distinguished position and refused their approval to ten schemes costing ·99 lakh. Three schemes costing 1·40 lakhs were not finally classified.

"On a review of all the materials thus placed before it, the Government decided to make provision in the budget for schemes the expenditure on which in the coming year was estimated to be 11·33 lakhs recurring and 61·22 lakhs non-recurring, and involving a total commitment of 16·51 lakhs recurring and 128·14 lakhs non-recurring. Our estimate of expenditure charged to revenue for the year 1926-1927 therefore amounted to 1,710·66 lakhs, or 76·46 lakhs in excess of our anticipated revenues. The Council will no doubt be anxious to know the reasons which to our

mind justified our contemplating such a large addition to our existing indebtedness. Our justification was twofold. It would be seriously adverse to the political and administrative advance of the province if in the wide field of our activities progress and improvement came by jerks and spasms, years or periods of stagnation being followed by years or periods of feverish activity. Financial circumstances may some day compel us to relapse into stagnation, but that time is not yet. The resources from which our revenues are derived are unimpaired; they are the general wealth of the country. Where unimpeded, these revenues continue to expand although they have not been adequate to the abnormal demands of the past few years, and if the manner in which they are drawn is open to objection or is failing in effectiveness, new machinery can be devised or existing machinery improved. It may be urged that further resources should have been searched out before additional expenditure was proposed, and if we were convinced that normal conditions had been re-established, I should be disposed to agree: but in the first place we were entitled to look forward to the disappearance of considerable expenditure of an abnormal and non-recurring character, and in the second place we were not forgetful of the fact that we still had expectations, the equity of which was admitted—I refer to the contribution of $2\frac{1}{4}$ crores which we still make to the Government of India from our revenues, a contribution of which they are pledged to relieve us. Unfortunately, when framing our budget proposals, we never know to what extent the Government of India will in any given year give effect to this undertaking. But we had some hopes that a further remission would, to some extent at any rate, reduce our anticipated deficit. These hopes have been realized. In the speech with which he introduced the budget for 1926–1927, the Finance Member of the Government of India announced their intentions as regards the divisible surplus of 130 lakhs at their disposal in the following words:—

'The House will, I feel sure, have no hesitation in agreeing that past expressions of policy and the truest interests of the people of India alike demand that, after using $1\frac{3}{4}$ crores of the sum at our disposal for the reduction of Central taxation, we should devote as much as we can of the rest to the relief of the Provinces. We accordingly propose to apply 125 lakhs to the further reduction of the provincial contributions in accordance with the Devolution Rules. The relief thus afforded will go to the extent of 57 lakhs to Madras, 33 lakhs to the United Provinces, 28 lakhs to the Punjab and 7 lakhs to Burma.'

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" Past experience warns us that there are always risks to be run before such proposals are made good. But we sincerely trust that neither here nor at Delhi any suggestion that this surplus should be diverted to other purposes will be brought forward or given any measure of support. By this remission of 57 lakhs to be utilized for our own purposes the addition to our debt which we contemplate in the coming year will be reduced to 19·46 lakhs. So far, however, as our total liabilities are concerned we hope by the debt operations of the current year to more than cover this amount. We anticipate a small surplus of 6·19 lakhs in the current year, and we also expect a sum of 17·91 lakhs to be adjusted in our favour in the current year as a refund of those pension charges to which I have already referred as having been wrongly debited to us in past years. These sums we propose to utilize for the reduction of existing debt. In the result, therefore, we expect by the end of 1926-1927 to have provided for new expenditure to the extent of 72·55 lakhs and to have reduced our existing indebtedness by the modest sum of 4½ lakhs.

" With your permission, Sir, I shall now pass briefly in review the most important of the new schemes for which provision is made in next year's budget.

" Out of a total expenditure of Rs. 72,55,000, Rs 14,59,000 go to EDUCATION, the principal items being 3·13 lakhs for the opening of new elementary schools, a lakh for the Andhra University; and a lakh for research laboratories in the Madras University. A sum of Rs. 89,500 is provided for strengthening the Subordinate Inspecting Agency, and the balance goes to building and equipment grants for aided institutions, subsidies to local bodies and miscellaneous objects.

" Under MEDICAL a sum of Rs. 4,96,300 is provided and will be utilized mainly for improvements, on additional equipment or establishments in Government hospitals and for grants-in-aid to private hospitals and local institutions. Rupees 34,000 is provided for expanding the scheme of medical relief in rural areas.

" Under IRRIGATION a sum of Rs. 4,17,600 is found, of which almost the whole is to be devoted to the improvement of minor irrigation works.

" FORESTS take 1½ lakhs and this sum will be devoted mainly to works required for the exploitation of our forests, including roads, quarters, and Rs. 31,300 for the Anamalais Sleeper project.

" Under POLICE a sum of Rs. 1,49,000 is required for the reopening of the Central Recruit School, Coimbatore, the reorganization and equipment of the Special Police Forces and additional police

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for the improvement of traffic control in the Madras City. Minor items include additional establishment for the work which is being done among the Kallars.

"PUBLIC HEALTH requires a sum of Rs. 2,33,500, the principal items being additional Health officers, Health Inspectors and Vaccination staff and a non-recurring grant of Rs. 1,37,000 for new water-supply schemes.

"Under AGRICULTURE, including Veterinary and Co-operative credit, requirements are Rs. 1,78,300 and this sum represents mainly the normal expansion of the activities of these departments. The most important item is Rs. 88,600 for the expansion of the Agricultural station at Anakapalle and the extension of work on sugarcane. 12-30 p.m.

"The INDUSTRIES department is allotted Rs. 1,96,000, the most important items being Rs. 94,500 for grants-in-aid to industrial schools and Rs. 52,900 for the purchase of additional machinery for the Pumping and Boring branch.

"Under MISCELLANEOUS departments a sum of Rs. 4,07,100 is almost entirely due to the further activities of the Labour department in connexion with the depressed classes, the Kallars and the criminal settlements. A provision of Rs. 62,000 is required to enable operations to be extended to another two districts.

"Under STATIONERY AND PRINTING the main item is a purchase of six linotype machines for the Government Press, Rs. 1,15,000.

"It is, however, under CIVIL WORKS—a general service head for all departments—that the bulk of the expenditure will be met. The total provision for new works is Rs. 23,66,100, and for additional establishments Rs. 75,900 including the creation of a new Tanjore circle to deal with the recommendations of the Cauvery Committee and other urgent requirements, the revival of the Guntur division and staff for the localization of the second-crop zone in the Godavari Western delta. Grants to local bodies for roads and bridges amount to Rs. 7,72,000.

"Turning now to our loans budget, a total of 289·61 lakhs as shown in the Civil Budget Estimate which will now be reduced to 232·61 lakhs as a result of the remission of 57 lakhs requires some explanation. Our actual borrowing will be less than that sum by 6¾ lakhs, the unutilized balance of our loans budget for the current year. Capital expenditure accounts for 158·29 lakhs. Of this amount one crore will be required for the Mettur project, the total expenditure on which will eventually exceed six crores. Since the

sanction of the Secretary of State was received to the estimates much attention has been devoted to problems of organization and equipment with reference to modern practice. It is hoped that the careful consideration which is being given to all these matters will not only reduce possible waste to a minimum, but also to the great benefit of our revenues enable construction to be carried through in a less period of years than was anticipated in the sanctioned programme. A further sum of 28·65 lakhs is provided for other irrigation works and improvements under construction or to be commenced in 1926–1927. Six lakhs is provided for payment of the commuted value of pensions: under the orders of the Secretary of State such payments are, in future, to be debited to a capital head and repaid from revenue by equated payments spread over fifteen years. A small sum of Rs. 1,79,000 represents capital investments in forests and other commercial undertakings, principally capital expenditure on our cinchona plantations. A further provision of 11·85 lakhs is made for certain important civil buildings which were commenced from loan funds and ten lakhs are provided for the Pykara Hydro-Electric project, the plans for which will, it is hoped, be sufficiently advanced to admit of construction being commenced next year. Under Provincial Loans and Advances a sum of 85·43 lakhs is provided involving a net borrowing of 54·86 lakhs as recoveries of past loans are taken in reduction of requirements. Of this sum 7½ lakhs is a loan to the Madras Corporation for its water-supply and drainage scheme; 11 lakhs are provided for the Cochin and Tuticorin harbour works; approximately 6 lakhs go to local boards for roads and bridges; and 15·31 lakhs go to mufassal municipalities, the principal items being 8·77 lakhs for the Coimbatore water-supply, and 2¼ lakhs for the Madura drainage scheme. 27·32 lakhs are provided for advances to cultivators under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists Loans Acts, an important item being 5·68 lakhs, advances to Co-operative societies for the reclamation of silted lands in Tanjore and Trichinopoly. Miscellaneous advances include those for the acquisition of house-sites and building houses for the depressed classes, loans to Kallar Co-operative societies, and for the initiation or extension of new developments in the co-operative world, such as, house building societies, cattle insurance societies and land mortgage banks. Our original proposals contemplated the borrowing of a further sum of 76·46 lakhs in order to balance our budget, but our requirements under this head are now reduced to 19·46 lakhs. The House will perhaps bear with me if I review briefly the progress of our loans transactions since the introduction of the Reforms. Our total liabilities under the financial settlement amounted to 985·12 lakhs composed of 875·26

lakhs, capital expenditure on irrigation works in respect of which we pay interest to the Government of India but are under no obligation of repayment, and 109·86 lakhs, the balance of the old provincial loans and advances which we are bound to liquidate by annual payments of 9·50 lakhs. At the end of the next financial year our debt will amount to 1,510·49 lakhs, an increase of 525·37 lakhs in six years. During that period we shall have repaid 161·39 lakhs out of our total borrowings and interest charges will have amounted to 274·18 lakhs. These figures are not in themselves alarming. By far the greater proportion of our additional debt represents remunerative or what we hope will be remunerative expenditure. The largest item, 310·16 lakhs, represents loans to other parties which they repay to us, and our deadweight debt will amount to the comparatively small sum of 65 lakhs. The weakness of our position lies in the fact that the margin between revenue and expenditure from which we have been meeting the charges on our loans has disappeared, and that an annual addition of even a few lakhs to these charges is now a source of considerable embarrassment. And now, Sir, I may perhaps be permitted a few words on that factor of the unexpected which ever dogs our financial footsteps.

"The science of meteorology is not yet sufficiently exact to give us infallible warnings as to when a bad season may be expected and as a result budgeting in India generally assumes normal collections and normal expansion of revenue. Unfortunately we are not infrequently betrayed by the hundred-and-one vicissitudes of the seasons as they pursue their course over 12 degrees of latitude. Our revenue calculations are upset, and we have also to find money not only for relief measures but for repairing damages by flood or cyclone. It is interesting but gives no comfort to surmise that in recent years we have suffered unduly from the indisposition of that capricious luminary the sun. The year 1924–1925, for example, was exceptional only in certain limited areas but the floods there involved a loss of revenue of nearly 4 lakhs while the total bill for repairing the damage caused by floods and cyclones in that and the previous year is estimated at about 95 lakhs, of which a balance of 24¾ lakhs will remain as a charge on the revenues of years subsequent to 1926–1927. These mishaps have also revealed the fact that in the Cauvery delta the standard at which training and protective works are maintained is inadequate, and that money must be spent not only on restoring but also on improving the conditions which existed before the floods. Such financial misfortunes when they arise are at present met by the somewhat crude expedient of restricting or postponing expenditure under

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the sanctioned budget programme, a method which is good neither for the temper nor for the morals of spending departments and, of course, in the long run, entails that further expenditure to which procrastination gives rise. It has been urged that the only way to meet such vicissitudes is to form a reserve or equalising fund which, at any rate within certain limits, would enable such extraordinary expenditure to be met without encroaching upon the administrative programme of the year. We have one Fund of this character—the Famine Insurance Fund. In this province the minimum statutory total of the Fund is 39·66 lakhs, an annual assignment of 6·61 lakhs being made until that minimum is attained. Meanwhile of course the balances are available for the purposes of the Fund: but these purposes are very strictly defined and safeguarded. They are :—

'The relief of famine or the construction of protective irrigation works or other works for the prevention of famine'.

'This Fund, therefore, provides no reserve from which loss of revenue can be equalised and is not available for the restoration of roads, bridges, Government buildings and other needs of that kind. Even for its restricted purposes, it forms a very modest reserve and the actual position of the Fund as estimated from its inauguration to the beginning of the next financial year is—

	RS.
Total receipts with interest	35,06,821
Expenditure incurred on the statutory purposes of the Fund.	13,41,138
Balance	21,65,683

"At this rate, the statutory minimum of 40 lakhs will be attained in another four years. In other respects we remain entirely at the mercy of the elements and our own optimism. I refer to this matter because it is a weak spot in our financial armoury which requires to be remedied. Any remedy, however, must imply surplus revenues from which a reserve of some sort can be built up: and unfortunately if bricks cannot be made without straw, it is equally impossible to build up a Reserve Fund out of a series of deficits.

"There is one other point of considerable importance in our financial organization to which I would call attention. A very considerable proportion of our revenues goes towards supplementing the resources of local bodies. These resources, even if efficiently administered and developed, are quite inadequate to meet the many claims upon them: but that fact makes it more imperative that they should be carefully husbanded. I am afraid that there is

clear evidence of laxity in collection. In the last three years, collections have been under 85 per cent of the demand. That is a matter to which my Hon'ble Colleague the Raja of Panagal is devoting his earnest attention and I sincerely trust that his effort will result in a distinct improvement: for our provincial finances are sufficiently strained to meet the legitimate requirements of local bodies without being called upon to shoulder a further burden arising out of their remissness or inefficiency.

"And now, Sir, it is my pleasant duty to give honour where honour is due, and to pay a well-earned tribute to the officers and establishment of the Finance Department for the manner in which they have discharged their onerous duties during the past year and for the unfailing cheerfulness with which they have sustained the very heavy burden which the budget season invariably imposes upon them. Eternal vigilance is said to be the price of freedom. It is equally essential to sound financial administration and we owe a real debt of gratitude to Mr. Boag, to Mr. Brown, and to their assistants for the manner in which they have discharged their responsibilities. I would also cordially acknowledge the manner in which the Members of the Finance Committee and of the Public Accounts Committee have met the many heavy calls upon their time and the great value of their deliberations to this Council. In the words of Cicero, a great financial authority of the ancient world, "*magnum vectigal est parsimonia*", thrift is a great source of revenue, and I can assure the House that that consideration is ever present to the mind of the Finance Department and of the Committee to which this House has entrusted important financial functions. 12-45 p.m.

"I need hardly say that it is a disappointment to me that even in spite of a further remission of our contributions I have not been able to place before this Council a more attractive picture of our financial position. It is however unnecessary as yet to take a sombre view of our prospects. But I sincerely hope that in the coming year we may be free from a recurrence of those many adverse circumstances which, since the Reforms, have with little intermission embarrassed our finances. If that hope is realised the year 1926–1927 may close under more favourable conditions than I have ventured to anticipate in the Budget which is now placed before this House. We do require a breathing space in order to liquidate in full the heavy charges which past misfortunes have imposed upon us, for in spite of much solid advance accomplished in recent years there are still crying needs to meet which our revenues even in the most favourable circumstances remain inadequate.

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"With your permission, Sir, I may add one word. It is not possible to incorporate in the papers placed before the House the results in all cases of the alterations in our figures resulting from the further remission of the provincial contribution. We also recognise that the figures do not always explain themselves, and it is somewhat difficult to anticipate in all cases where exactly explanation may be required. If on any point any Member of the House finds some difficulty in understanding or reconciling the figures, if he would kindly make a note of his difficulty and send it either to Mr. Boag or myself or come and see us, we shall be very glad indeed to have any difficulty cleared up and to find for the hon. Member the explanation which he seeks." (Cheers).

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Before we adjourn for lunch I should like to remind hon. Members that motions for reduction of grants should be sent in before 3 p.m. on the 9th March 1926 and also that where token motions are made, I shall be obliged if hon. Members will, in accordance with the practice followed last year, add the purpose, so that I may be able to arrange the order in which the motions should be discussed.

"The House will now adjourn and meet again at 2-30 p.m."

After Lunch 2-30 p.m.

III.—MOTION FOR THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE TO DISCUSS THE DEATH OF A STUDENT WHO WAS DENIED ADMISSION INTO THE GENERAL HOSPITAL—*cont.*

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Before I make my motion, may I rise to a point of order? I espy a stranger in the House (referring to Major-General Symons)."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The Surgeon-General has been appointed a Special Member in connexion with the Nurses and Midwives Bill."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"He has been appointed for that Bill. Do you really consider, Sir, that a Member appointed for that Bill can be present at a meeting of the House at which the Bill is not set down on the agenda and is not likely to come up and when a motion touching his department is being discussed? I ask for a ruling on the matter."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"May I draw your attention, Mr. President, to a decision of your predecessor, the late Mr. Swamikannu Pillai, when a similar point of order was raised by my Friend? Mr. Gopalaswami Ayyangar had then been appointed as a Special Member in connexion with the Religious Endowments Bill. He was present at the time in the House, after the consideration of the Bill was over—the consideration of that Bill, if I remember correctly, was over in the forenoon—and at 4-30 or so Mr. Gopalaswami Ayyangar was present in the Council. My learned Friend, the Member for the University, raised this identical point

of order, and Mr. Swamikannu Pillai's ruling was he could be present at the meeting because he was a Member of the Council, though he could not take part in the discussion or vote on any matter which was unconnected with the Bill."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" On that very point of order, I may draw attention to a few facts. Mr. Gopalaswami Ayyangar was appointed for that Bill which was set down for consideration on that day, which was considered and which came to a conclusion either late in the forenoon or early in the afternoon. Afterwards the Council met here specially, at about 4 or 4-30 p.m.—I believe for the Governor Lord Willingdon to come and address the House —when Mr. Gopalaswami Ayyangar sat in one of the benches there (pointing to the Government benches). I raised a point of order and your predecessor ruled—I am speaking from memory—that for the day he was entitled to sit. But it is a far cry from that to say that an expert Member for a particular Bill, when it is not on the agenda, is entitled to sit in the House. You will notice the wording of the Government of India Act. It is very clear on the matter. The Governor has got power to appoint these expert Members, but it is only for the purpose of a particular Bill. Under proviso (*b*) of sub-section (2) of section 72-A, 'the Governor may, for the purpose of any Bill introduced or proposed to be introduced in his Legislative Council, nominate, in the case of Assam one person, and in the case of other provinces not more than two persons, having special knowledge or experience of the subject-matter of the Bill, and those persons shall, in relation to the Bill, have for the period for which they are nominated all the rights of members of the council, and shall be in addition to the numbers above referred to.'

" I submit, with full confidence and without any fear of contradiction from anyone who knows the law, that the proviso means and can mean only this, that these expert members are members only for the particular Bill and can exercise the rights of membership for that Bill only. In these circumstances I do submit—I do welcome the presence of the Surgeon-General personally—I regret I have to say it, he cannot be a member of the House for the purpose of this motion."

(The Advocate-General just then entered the House; Mr. Satyamurti: " I am glad the Advocate-General is coming in time ")

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Without committing myself to any ruling the request for which again has been sprung upon me without any notice, I think we shall have to conform to the courteous practice of this House in allowing these members to sit in the House, without allowing them to take any part in the discussion which does not refer to the Bill, for which they are appointed. As regards the general question whether such members can sit in the House at all, I shall have to examine the authorities on the subject."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" That is for you to decide. You must kindly allow me to say that I cannot raise a point of order before the occasion for it arises ; I cannot expect the Surgeon-General to be sitting in the House : how can I anticipate this ? That is my only excuse for not giving notice."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu:—"Unfortunately, I am not a lawyer; I can only understand that a man who is nominated is entitled to sit there until he resigns his seat."

* Mr. S. Satyamurti:—"I am glad of the humorous interruption. We shall now proceed to a matter which allows of no humour, which deals with an occurrence, which to all those who have a heart to feel must appear a most tragic occurrence.

"I rise to move an adjournment of the business of this House—

'*To consider a matter of urgent public importance, to wit, the statements (especially that the Government do not propose to take any special action in the matter) made by the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government in answer to a question in the Council to-day, with regard to the death of a student who was recently refused admission in the General Hospital.*'

"I may say, Mr. President, that I like to assure you and the House that it is not with a light heart or any personal grudge against anybody in charge of the General Hospital that I bring up this motion. I bring it up only after the most anxious and careful consideration, and in the light of the answers of the hon. the Minister for Local-Self Government which, I regret, I can only characterise as callous and indifferent. What are the facts of this case, Mr. President, as given in the answers of the Government, and in the letter sent to the Government by the Surgeon-General which has been published as an appendix to the answer? The Government say—summing up, I believe their impressions on the letter of the Surgeon-General—that the 'incident was due not to any defect of the system.' I join issue with the hon. the Minister on that, and I hope presently to satisfy him or at least this House that this incident was certainly due to defects in the system. They add 'to an error of judgment on the part of the medical officer on duty.' If this is an error of judgment of the medical officer on duty, I can only say that he is unfit to be a medical officer, on that ground alone. 'The Government do not therefore propose to take any special action in the matter.' You will have noticed, Sir, as also the House, that there is the sting of the offence. None of us can prevent accidents. In the best regulated systems, human nature being what it is, accidents will and must happen; but human nature will cease to become human and be sub-human, if not worse, if it does not provide against the repetition of such accidents. Yet, what does the Government say? They say 'they do not propose to take any special action in the matter'. Why? The Surgeon General will deal with the Assistant Surgeon departmentally! That does not satisfy me. That was why I said, Mr. President, that this motion was actuated not by any personal grudge or vindictiveness. The medical officer has sinned against the laws of God in refusing admission to a patient and he will pay his price. I am not concerned with him, but I am concerned with the Government which rides off on the plea, because that officer is going to be dealt with departmentally by the Surgeon-General, therefore their duty as Government is finished—an irrelevant and trivial plea. Now with regard to the facts of the case, I should like to acknowledge the fullness with which the Surgeon-General has sent information on this matter. I do not know if

the Surgeon-General wants to make any point out of this unfortunate student having to walk up from the car to the out-patient department. It might have been that there was no ambulance car. If, of course, there had been somebody at the gate to ask what the case was and the kind of conveyance to take him from the car to the out-patient department were available, he might have availed himself of it. I trust the Surgeon-General does not want to make out that because he walked from the car to the out-patient department there was prima facie evidence that the case could not be serious.

"Then we come to the paragraph where it is admitted that he came up at 8-30 a.m. or so. According to the Surgeon-General, 'Between 9-30 and 11 a.m. the duty assistant surgeon, Mr. K. I. John, whose duty it is to admit the patients into the hospital saw all the patients, etc.' I should like to know why for one hour after the boy came nothing was done in the hospital. Are even such urgent and serious cases really to wait for the lordly hours of the hospital people? If an urgent case like that is brought up, I should imagine as a layman there must be somebody to attend immediately to it. But according to Government, for one hour there was nobody there to attend to the unfortunate student. Then I should like to know what are the hours really for the admission of such serious cases that come to the hospital? Have they to come at stated hours? If illness were to overtake us at stated hours; I can understand it. But the hon. the Minister must know that illness knows no hours, and it is inhuman to say that, in serious cases, you must wait for one hour and more, which may prove disastrous to the life of the patient. Then the paragraph says 'all the patients who were earmarked for admission'. I should like some information on that matter. What is this process of earmarking, how is it done, what are the tests? Then it goes on 'and selected the nine cases which he considered were seriously ill and refused admission to the others for want of vacant beds'. Here, Sir, comes the whole crux of the problem. Was this man refused admission because he was not sufficiently seriously ill in the opinion of Dr. John, or was he refused admission because there were not beds available? Is it because he was not considered to be sufficiently seriously ill or do the tests of sufficient seriousness depend on the availability of beds in the hospital? I should like to have some information as to why this man was refused admission. You will notice that throughout the Surgeon-General's letter and the Government answer, there is no attempt to grapple with this real question. Why was the admission refused? Was it because he was not sufficiently seriously ill? That position cannot be maintained now, if the doctor knew his business, in view of the sequel and also in view of Dr. Krishna Rao's letter who recommended it as a serious case. Or was it because there were no vacant beds, and does the Government represented by the Raja of Panagal tell the people of this presidency that although one of them may come in a collapsing and dying condition to a Government hospital maintained by the Government, because there are no beds, he must be allowed to die in the streets like a dog? Is that the position which the hon. the Raja of Panagal takes?

"Then we come to paragraph 4. That makes the thing worse. 'The note from Dr. Krishna Rao was seen by Mr. John who examined the patient. The Assistant Surgeon after the examination did not consider the student sufficiently ill to necessitate his ordering an extra bed.' The mystery

becomes still more mysterious. An out-patient is to be refused admission or is to be admitted not only on these two tests, either of them or both of them may govern the action of the medical officer, viz., availability of beds in the hospital or the sufficiently serious nature of the patient, but also there seems to be a third possibility, that if the particular doctor in charge at the moment thinks in spite of the non-availability of beds in the hospital, that the case is sufficiently serious, he may order an extra bed.

2-45 p. m. "Sir, I should like to have some information from the hon. the Minister as to what are the powers of the medical officers with regard to the ordering of extra beds, who has got the power of ordering them and what are the circumstances under which extra beds can or will be ordered. Thus it follows that this doctor could have ordered an extra bed, had he chosen, and from the answer it is clear that he did not choose to order an extra bed because he did not consider the case sufficiently serious. Now, as I said already, if, in the light of the sequel, this man can diagnose a case only in that amateurish fashion, I think he ought to be given some other means of earning his livelihood than playing and gambling with the lives of the citizens of India.

"Then we come to paragraph 5. 'On enquiry, it has been ascertained that the students who brought the patient to the hospital tried their best to persuade the Assistant Surgeon to reconsider his decision. The Assistant Surgeon, however, apparently stuck to his original opinion'. And this I call obstinacy on the part of the Assistant Surgeon, because he stuck to his original opinion, in spite of the representation of the students and the letter of Dr. Krishna Rao. Then, Sir, the last sentence is: 'On the day in question there were five vacant Indian beds and seven cases were admitted.' Now, we are all told that we ought not to be racial in this country: we ought to rise above racial prejudice and that we ought to be cosmopolitan. I try my best to be like that, but my best at times fails when I am reminded that in my own country, in our own Indian hospitals maintained by the Indian tax-payer's money and run, above all, by an Indian Minister there should be beds which are called 'non-Indian' beds. Why, in the name of common sense, why? Have you ever heard, Mr. President, of any country in the world except ours where beds are being maintained for patients on racial considerations? Do you find in England beds for Indians in those English hospitals specially maintained at the expense of the tax-payer? Do you know what it means, Mr. President? You may go in mortal illness to the General Hospital—I trust you will not (laughter)—but if you had to go, although all the available European beds be vacant, you will not be taken in because you are an Indian, whereas a fifth-rate European without a name can be admitted and given a European bed because he has the European blood. Can flesh and blood stand this? Is it right? I should like to know from the hon. the Minister why he maintains in this country at the expense of the tax-payer this racial distinction in hospitals. It seems to me that the time has arrived when we must speak up against this and put an end to this continual humiliation arising from the racial consciousness to the self-respect of our country.

"Then, Sir, there is a small discrepancy to which my hon. Friend Mr. Narasimhacharlu drew the Minister's attention this morning, but it was

not clearly explained. You will notice that in paragraph 3 it is stated ' . . . selected nine cases. . .' In paragraph 5 we find that seven cases were admitted. I should like to know what 'selected' means, and what 'admitted' means. Were the nine cases selected then put through another process of admission and only seven were admitted and, if so, what became of those two people who, even according to this Deputy Assistant Surgeon, were seriously ill and deserved admission?

"Next we come to paragraph 6 which deals with what happened to this unfortunate patient at the Rayapuram hospital. There again the Surgeon-General says very fairly:

'It (admission) was not done immediately inasmuch as the Deputy Assistant Surgeon was engaged in admitting other patients at the time. . .'

That seems to me to be a serious defect of this system. When out-patients in serious illness come to the hospital, there ought to be some provision made to have extra surgeons to attend to them both in the General Hospital and in the Rayapuram hospital. We find that owing to want of sufficient hands to deal with these cases, avoidable time was not saved and a patient was delayed admission, apart from other causes, also because of the fact that the number of assistant surgeons available for examining such cases was not large enough to cope with the demands which may come to such hospitals with such serious illness.

"Then, 'the Doctor at Rayapuram stated that inasmuch as the patient arrived after out-patient hours he could not be admitted'. Is that so? Is a man who is seriously ill to be told that he will not be admitted because he had the ill-fortune to come after the so called 'out-patient hours'? What are those hours? Are the out-patients to be told that unless their illness becomes serious in those hours, they have no chance of being treated? I should like to know from the hon. Minister whether really he is going to regulate the illness of people according to the out-patient hours of these hospitals and dispensaries.

"Now I should like to read paragraph 7:

'From the above statements it is obvious that a very regrettable and unfortunate incident has occurred. . .'

I thank the Surgeon-General for this human acknowledgement of a great loss which the student's family must have sustained, and I should like, on behalf of the opposition, to associate ourselves with this expression of regret for an unfortunate and deplorable incident. I asked the hon. the Minister this morning as to why the Government did not express their regret and the answer was that the Surgeon-General in his report had expressed regret and therefore the Government need not. It seems to me that it shows. . . "

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"It does not follow from it that the Government do not regret the deplorable incident."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"What does not follow? What I am going to say is this: that the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government as an Indian and as a human being should have taken advantage of this question and should have expressed unequivocal and profound regret. After all, Mr. President, not even the most exalted among us is free from death. This unfortunate incident may happen any day to any of us. And, how would

the Raja of Panagal feel if it happens to those nearest and dearest to him and when it is brought before the House, the Minister in charge does not express regret at the incident ? I appeal to him as man to man. This student is also a human being full of hope for a life. He dies uncared for in Madras, and here sits the Minister and says with red-tapism shining on his face, that the Surgeon-General expressed regret and therefore he cannot. Is it too much ? Will it cost him too much to express regret ? That shows that the Government have not got the bearings of this question still. They do not see the human aspect of it.

" Then, the Surgeon-General in paragraph 8 tries to extenuate the matter, and there is my quarrel with him. I wish he had stopped with paragraph 7. In paragraph 8 he tries to extenuate, but even there he helps me. I will show how. He says and I agree with him very cordially :

' It becomes practically a daily experience of shroffing out those patients who should be admitted and those who could afford to wait and come again another day.'

" I agree that if the Surgeon in charge feels after examination that a patient can afford to wait safely without danger to life and come another day, he may ask him to do so. I certainly agree that then the hospital authorities are justified. But I am sure the Surgeon-General does not mean to condone this act where admittedly a patient was seriously ill but was refused admission on wholly irrelevant considerations. Then the Surgeon-General adds : ' It is possible that such accidents will occasionally happen even if the greatest care be exercised '. I agree ; but in this case has the greatest care been exercised ? I submit, not, Mr. President, and that is the reason why I have brought this motion for adjournment.

" The Surgeon-General says that he proposes to deal with the Assistant Surgeon departmentally. I leave him there. But coming to the Government, Mr. President, with whom I have got to deal in this matter primarily, I have given you and the House a bare statement of the facts of the case, as they appear in the answers given by the hon. the Minister himself. I submit that this accident arose from a defective system, the defects being the hours of admission for out-patients, even for those suffering from serious illness, varying with each hospital and not being fixed, whereas in my humble opinion these hours ought to be coterminous with the 24 hours of the day and the night. Serious cases ought to be examined at once and admitted. Otherwise your hospital is not worth its name. Secondly, the number of doctors available for inspection and examination of patients who are seriouly ill and who are brought in should be much geater than what they are at present.

" Then with regard to the number of beds, Mr. President, I think that in a large city like Madras we do want more beds. I know there is a feeling that a very large amount of money is spent on the Madras hospitals. But can we forget, Sir, that Madras is a cosmopolitan city ? So far as the Madras city is concerned, men and women from all parts of the presidency come here very often with serious illness for treatment in our hospitals. Therefore the expenditure on Madras hospitals is not on the Madras city alone, but also largely on the whole presidency, especially in serious cases where people come up here for treatment in our well-equipped hospitals.

" Then my complaint against the hon. the Minister is that there has been no proper supervision, so far as I can see, in any of our hospitals and if I am wrong in making this statement I shall be glad to be corrected. But for the letters in the press of Madras and the interpellation on the floor of this House, I doubt very much if any inquiry would have been instituted in this matter. That man would have been dead and forgotten except by his own nearest and dearest relatives and we would have heard nothing of it. It was only on a question put on the floor of the House that the Secretary undertook to have inquiries made. Why was not an inquiry made earlier by the department or by the Government itself? Moreover, I should like to ask the hon. the Minister whether if this man had been brought there by influential people under influential auspices he would not have been admitted. I do not want to say more than that; but I have certainly heard from many places that influence does count in our hospitals. What I want to emphasize by making this motion is that we must have more and better medical men in charge of our hospitals and that we must have more beds at least to cope with the normal demand. I want one more provision to be made, Mr. President, and that is that the medical officers in charge of hospitals should have discretion and materials available for providing extra beds for a temporary period. If extra strain is felt on the hospitals, there ought to be room and materials to meet it. The only thing is that the officers should be trusted not to abuse the discretion vested in them and should be able to cope with serious cases even if the number of such cases is more than the average.

" I may add, Mr. President, I realize that in western countries, especially in England, private charity goes a long way towards providing hospital accommodation. I believe that in England, for example, most of the hospital accommodation is provided by private charity and no Government really can provide for all possible cases of illness. But we cannot forget the one fact that England is perhaps the richest or second richest country in the world and India is the poorest country in the world. Therefore, here Governments have got to realize that especially in serious cases unless Governments make adequate provision in hospitals and dispensaries these cases will not be attended to.

" I want racial discrimination in the matter of providing beds in hospitals to be abolished altogether. I have got here, Sir, the supplementary questions and answers to this question this morning. They have not been corrected by the hon. Minister and I am reading only the uncorrected version of it. Therefore if I am misquoting him he will please correct me. The hon. the Minister said,—

'If the officer in charge knew that the case in question was as serious as it really happened to be, he would certainly have preferred this patient to another patient who perhaps might have been refused admission.'

" Does the hon. the Minister realize the implication of this statement? Not only this boy was refused admission, but another patient who was selected for the reason that his case could not be put off would have been asked to come another day.

" Therefore it was due merely to the surgeon's incompetence to find out the seriousness of the illness of the patient. When it comes to the question 3 p.m.

of regret the hon. Minister says that he feels sorry for the death of this student as he feels sorry for the death of other persons. I do hope that he had not said that."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Other patients."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : –" Other patients die in the hospitals in spite of the best efforts of the doctors but not owing to their callous indifference. If we are sorry then, we are sorry that the patients die in spite of the best human efforts which have been defeated. But in this case he ought to be sorry that owing to the negligence of his own subordinates a death which might have been prevented was not prevented. That is certainly not the regret which I expected from the hon. Minister.

" The hon. Minister says in his answer that 'it depends on the availability of funds and whether we can have more accommodation to admit more than the present number of patients.' I should like to know what is the policy of the Government with regard to these beds and whether they propose to take any action or not. The Raja Sahib then said that if there were any cases which were considered to be of a serious nature the officer in charge would admit them to the European ward if there were no beds vacant in the Indian wards. I shall be glad if it were so. But does it not follow from this that in this case the patient was refused admission not because there was no bed (because no bed was available in the Indian ward) but because his illness must become more serious before he would be admitted to the European ward. I wish to know, Sir, what are these two grades of serious illness, one grade which makes him fit for admission to the Indian ward and the other grade, probably near the point of death, which would gain him admission in the European ward. Then, Sir, in the course of another answer the hon. Minister said that if the admitting officer thought that the case was sufficiently serious he would have made arrangements for admitting that particular case. Is that possible, I want to know?"

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :–" Yes, Sir, it is possible."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :–" I am glad to hear this. But this student was refused admission not because there was no Indian bed available, not because his case was not sufficiently serious to be admitted in the European ward or special arrangements to be made for him, but because the surgeon in charge omitted to make arrangements. I want to read one more sentence from the answer given by the hon. Minister. He stated that 'after examining the patient the officer came to the conclusion that it was not a case sufficiently serious to be admitted under special circumstances.' I should like to know, Sir,--I am glad the Surgeon-General is here for this purpose at least--I should like the hon. Minister to ascertain from him and let us, laymen, know what are these three grades of serious illness, one grade to be admitted to an Indian bed, another grade . . ."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" No such grade was contemplated in any answer given by me."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" If his words misrepresent his intentions I am sorry. This officer came to the conclusion that the case was not sufficiently serious to be admitted under special circumstances. Therefore, Sir, there are two grades of serious illness, one grade which will justify admission

under special circumstances and another grade which will not justify such admission. I should like to know the features of the serious illness which will justify admission under special circumstances. I do not want to be hard on this unfortunate surgeon in charge. I do not know him. Probably it was an error of judgment; I do not know. I would suggest, Mr. President, that if this gentleman, on the facts now available, were prosecuted before a court of law, he would certainly be found guilty under section 304 of the Indian Penal Code (laughter) for negligent omission on his part, for culpable homicide not amounting to murder."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—" . . . Swaraj Government . . ."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" My hon. Friend below the gangway, I know, is having the Swaraj Government on his brains. I am sorry for him. It seems to me that his interest is to impress himself on the Government benches. But we ought not to allow him to interfere with and insult the Swaraj movement in this country. To do so would be unworthy of any hon. Member of this House." (Sir K. V. Reddi rose to speak.)

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Is it on a point of personal explanation ?"

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—" Yes, Sir. I must certainly not care for the language used by the hon. Member for the University. The House is already familiar with it . . ."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Is this a point of personal explanation, Sir ? "

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—" Some conversation went on here across the table and in answer to a question put to me by the hon. Member for South Kanara I stated that, Sir."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" I do not see where the personal explanation comes in. I do hope, next time if an hon. Member rises for a personal explanation and uses the opportunity for other purposes, you will remember his name." (Sir A. P. Patro : " Hear, hear.")

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" But till the hon. Member in question says anything it is hardly possible for me to say whether it is a personal explanation or not. However often an hon. Member might have been guilty of acts against the rules of debate, till he is actually guilty of it he should not be presumed to be capable of that guilt. "

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" I only want that some punishment should follow the guilt. (Laughter.)

" I have done, Sir. The hon. Minister said that no Government could prevent such things. My hon. Friend below the gangway is impatient of the Swaraj Government. I do hope in all humility that this is claimed to be the Swaraj Government, I take it. We are having Indians there and if we can manage it well, it is Swaraj Government for us. Does my hon. Friend presume that they have the monopoly of patriotism, efficiency and . . ."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—" I leave it entirely to the hon. Member for the University." (Inaudible.)

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"This is not a matter for jokes. I do hope that hon. Members will realize that we are discussing a tragic event in the history of Madras, the death of an unfortunate student which might have been averted. No amount of gibes will relieve the Government of its responsibility in this matter. It is to that point I am inviting the attention of the House. I want the Government to express publicly its regret for this incident and solemnly undertake that they will take every step that human reason suggests and human ingenuity can implement to prevent such incidents in the future. If they do not, we on this side of the House will press this matter to a division. We may be defeated; it does not matter; we have done our duty. I have no personal motive in this matter. I do not know the young man and where he comes from. It is only my human sympathy with the unfortunate student whose death might have been and ought to have been averted which prompted me to move this motion. I do hope that every section of the House will support it. Speaking on behalf of this side of the House, I would once more convey to the members of the family and the friends of the unfortunate young man our deepest and most sincere sympathies."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—"I second it."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Mr. President, Sir, the hon. Member for the University in his elaborate, and may I say, laboured statement tried to make out a case that the Government have been callous and indifferent in this matter of the death of a patient who sought admission to the General Hospital but was refused admission thereto and that Government have been remiss in the discharge of their duty in providing the General Hospital with an adequate staff to give a better relief than what obtains at present. The hon. Member laid much stress on the answer which the Government gave, viz., that they were not going to take any further action in the matter. The hon. Members may remember that in the report which was submitted by the Surgeon-General and placed on the table of the House, the Surgeon-General not only expressed regret at the unfortunate occurrence but also stated that he would take departmental action in the matter. Under the circumstances, and especially as the event happened as a result of an error in judgment, the Government thought no further action was necessary. It is for the head of the medical department, the expert adviser of the Government, to ascertain how far the assistant surgeon was wrong in judgment. It is for that reason that the enquiry had to be made by the Surgeon-General. The Government feel extremely sorry for the untoward occurrence but what can they do. It is unfortunate that the patient was not admitted. If the patient was brought in time to the hospital and admitted, he would have had all the help that the hospital could give. I do realize that. But it must not be forgotten that the patient was sent to the hospital rather late and the officer in charge of admission did not think that it was a serious case. The officer was wrong in his diagnosis and made a mistake in not admitting him. The hon. Member in his statement raised various questions.

"One of the questions he raised was as to the powers of the admitting officers to order for extra beds. I may at once say that the officer in charge of admission has the discretion to order for any number of beds which he

considers necessary for the admission of emergent cases. Cases are admitted generally at stated times, but it is open to the Resident Medical Officer to admit emergent cases at any hour irrespective of the hours fixed for the admission of out-patients or in-patients. The hon. Member has questioned the professional abilities of the particular officer to diagnose diseases. About it, it is for the Surgeon-General to report to the Government after the inquiry which he proposed to make. The hon. Member has asked as to why beds should be classified into Indian beds and European beds in the General Hospital. Unfortunately in this country it so happens that people do not live in the same style. Indians do not live in the style in which the Europeans live nor do Europeans live in the same style in which the Indians live. The difference in arrangement is due to the difference in the mode of living of people. Another point raised was about seven out of nine patients being admitted. A general selection is made and from among the selected those that required immediate attention are admitted at once and as to the others it is quite possible for the officer to send them to other hospitals or ask them to come the next day or any day after.

"It is only in emergent cases, special beds are provided and patients are admitted. From the fact that out of nine cases, only seven were admitted, it is evident that only seven cases were emergent and the other two were not cases which required the necessity of improvising special beds. The hon. Member questioned as to 'why there was delay in admitting the patient in the Rayapuram Hospital.' It is to be inferred from the facts of the case that he was admitted into the hospital as an emergent case as early as possible. Those who were in charge of the patient ought to have brought him to the hospital earlier. 3-15 p.m.

"The hon Member was anxious to know whether there is sufficient medical staff to look after the patients. The necessary staff is there. If we can spare more funds, certainly we can have more officers. That is a matter which entirely depends upon the availability of funds. In all the hospitals we have the required number of appointments.

"Next as to why there should not be more beds in the General Hospital, I can only say that though I desire to have as many beds as possible in the General Hospital, I cannot help realizing the financial limitations in giving effect to that desire. The Government have a scheme of reconstruction of the General Hospital so as to accommodate more in-patients, but unfortunately the scheme could not be given effect to for want of funds. If funds are available, the Government would be glad to extend the ward accommodation in the General Hospital.

"The hon. Mover pointed out the necessity for appointing special officers to supervise the hospitals. There are the Superintendents of hospitals and their duty is to supervise the work of the hospitals. As there is the Superintendent of the hospital to look after this work it does not appear to be necessary to have another supervising officer.

"The hon. Member has incidently referred to the fact that the medical relief in this country is entirely provided for by the Government and not by private persons. It is a matter to be regretted that it is so. He said that India is a poor country; I admit it is so. In spite of the fact that India is

poor, she is not poor in the spirit of charity. She has not been niggardly in charity but the most unfortunate part of it is that this charity has not taken the shape of providing medical relief to the poor; it is hoped that platform speakers like the hon. Member for the University will appeal to private persons to direct their charity towards medical relief which is so much in need in the country. I am really sorry that the hon. Member accused the Government of being callous. The Government have not been callous. The Government were very sorry for the unhappy incident. They took cognizance of the case and that was the reason why the Surgeon-General was at once directed to investigate into the matter. He has submitted his report and is going to hold a regular inquiry; and if after inquiry the officer in charge of admission is found guilty, such punishment as will be considered necessary will be meted out to him"

*Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, if there were any doubts in the minds of the hon. Members here whether there was any necessity for taking such a serious step as moving for the adjournment of the business of the House, I think that after hearing the speech of the hon. the Minister, such doubts should have disappeared. Sir, instead of realizing the seriousness of the situation and the great possibility of such serious accidents happening even to-day or to-morrow, he has replied to the adjournment motion in the spirit and in the manner of a clerk in one of the Government departments trying to give an explanation when demanded of him by his superior and trying to throw the blame upon the peon or upon the attender. It is a question of life and death of a human being an Indian though it may be. It is not a question of people getting suddenly ill which is common now-a-days. It is neither a question of Gopalasundaram who has luckily disappeared from a world where Dr. Johns are ruling nor even a question of some officer holding an inquiry in the year 1926 or 1927. It is not these which concern this House. Sir, it is certainly a scandal--I am afraid scandal is too mild a word to be used on this occasion--to see Indian life at such a peril and so callously treated. Although the hon. the Minister was against the use of that word, I will still use it. It is a serious matter which may occur in any part of this province. Sir, had the hon. the Minister in his reply which was placed in our hands this morning, given us at least some hope or indication that the state of affairs would be better, hereafter, there would perhaps have been no need for this motion. But what is the situation? In spite of the vast resources available at his back, the hon. the Minister is able to vouchsafe to us that when funds are available and when another General Hospital—a magnificent edifice no doubt it will be—is reared up in the midst of some pleasant landscape in Madras, Gopalasundarams or their descendants may hope to have better treatment. I ask my hon. Colleagues in this House whether they are going to be carried away by that alluring prospect. Our financial position is dependent year after year upon the efforts of Sir Basil Blackett The hon. the Minister said that when we were going to have a new General Hospital, when Europeans and Indians lived according to the same standard of life and when finances were available—those are conditions in the dim distance of time for which he will not be responsible, the successors of Gopalasundaram would have better and prompted medical relief. It is not a question of Gopalasundaram. It is a question of the fate of any Indian who is stricken or is likely to be stricken with sudden illness that

comes without notice or without taking careful cognisance of the 'Indian' beds available in the General Hospital. Let us realize the situation. This student was living away from his native place perhaps in a hostel without his relatives near him. He is stricken with a disease which has proved fatal since. He has no help whatever. Some of his messmates, friends or neighbours take trouble, incur the expenditure of hiring a taxi and take him to the hospital. These people, inexperienced of course, have not probably heard of stretchers. The student is asked to walk up to a couch in the verandah. Unfortunately the man with the angel of death flapping its wings over his head is on the point of death and is obliged to listen to all the arguments of his fellow students by which Mr. John is not moved. They argue—budding lawyers as they are—making out a strong case for the admission of the student. They cringe, put forward all possible arguments. Finally they produce the certificate of a well-known private doctor as to the urgency and seriousness of the case. But Dr. John is still unmoved. What is worse than that is that the stricken patient, at the point of death, is obliged to listen to all these arguments and three hours, mortal hours, pass and the student is shunted to another hospital *en route* to death. It is to prevent the recurrence of such calamities that this adjournment motion has been brought forward by my hon. Friend, Mr. Satyamurti. Sir, I want this House to imagine what would be the state of affairs in any civilized country if this incident took place. During my four years' stay in Europe I have come into contact with many hospitals—although I had not the misfortune to fall ill. Even in the hospitals intended for the poorest of the poor, I have seen with my own eyes, people getting better, kinder and more humane treatment at the hands of the doctors even at the dead of night. Sir, I would ask the House to imagine, further, if such a death had occurred in any one of the hospitals in London, how the *London Times* or the *Morning Post* would have thundered forth the exasperated feeling of the country. I ask, Sir, if an incident or two of this sort take place in London, would the party in power remain long in office or even for 24 hours. We are copying their institutions, we are talking glibly about parliamentary procedure and all sorts of things. Should we not at least have here the conditions existing in other civilised parts of the world? Instead of aiming at that, the callousness of the Government in simply saying that if funds are available and if another edifice is built, Gopalasundarams would get relief, should be condemned."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"I did not say that Gopalasundaram would get better relief if funds were available."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Obviously, he cannot." (Laughter.)

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"I said Gopalasundarams. I advisedly used the plural. My hon. Colleagues could not have forgotten the hue and cry and the agitation which was raised when two British soldiers suffered by sunstroke for want of ice or electric fans in trains. Unfortunately, the sun in this country is very severe; but the agitation that was set up in connexion with that matter could not have been forgotton by hon. Members of this House.

"There was a recent occurrence of error of judgment which, according to my hon. Friend, Dr. John has been capable of." 3-30 p.m.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" May I beg other hon. Members to confine their remarks to faults of the Government in regard to this matter. Obviously the Government acknowledges that there has been an error of judgment by the officer in charge."

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Sir, whether the offence is an error of judgment or a more serious offence, there is this fact, viz., that a man was brought to the hospital and it was pleaded very eloquently that that man should be admitted, that his case was very serious, that he was turned away and that he died soon after. I should like to know what is the sort of diagnosis that was made by the doctor with respect to this man and what was the relief that was afforded. It may be that the man would not have been alive even though he had been admitted and given prompt medical relief. That is not the point at issue. But I say in the interests of humanity and in the interests of the people of this province, the system is defective. That is the point sought to be emphasised by this motion. It has been stated that the system has not been found defective, but I say that the system must be defective and it is to carry this conviction to the party who are in power that we have brought forward this adjournment motion.

" There is only one other matter to which I would like to refer. I am referring to an incident which took place in my own district some years back when famine was prevalent there and was causing considerable havoc. At that time when a certain ryot died in a village and the District Magistrate got a telegram—I know that this is a fact because I had occasion to go through the details connected with this case recently—there was a great commotion in the whole district, owing to the death of a single ryot, mind you, and the commotion even reached the seat of Government. Probably I should take it that the present Government have progressed since then progressed to such an extent as not to take care of the lives of their citizens. Sir, my hon. Friend, Sir K. Venkatareddi Nayudu, remarked that if Swaraj were to be obtained, then probably more care would be shown to the saving of human lives. In a diarchical form of Government where the Ministers are the chosen representatives of the people, I ask: Is it not the duty of the Minister who comes from a party which is out to safeguard the interests of 40 millions of people entrusted to their care to see such a system is put an end to! Yet an incident such as this has actually happened! It is to point out how far we have failed under the present system of administration to safeguard the interests of the people and to show that we can never achieve our ideal if this system is continued that we have brought forward this motion."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, there was some unfortunate altercation between myself and my hon. Friend, Sir K. Venkatareddi Nayudu about the offence which this doctor has committed. My hon. Friend, Mr. Satyamurti, stated that this Dr. John would be liable to be prosecuted under section 304-A. My hon. Friend, Sir K. Venkatareddi Nayudu, implied that only when Swaraj party came into existence we could remedy evils of this kind. I want to know whether any other Government, whether it is led by Swaraj party or any other party, will show such indifference or callousness to human life as has been shown in the present case. I do not

think the House would have been convinced by the explanation given by the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government. The correspondence which I have seen in regard to this matter appeared in the *Swarajya* paper on the 13th February and we are now on the 2nd March. More than 15 days have elapsed for this matter to attract the serious attention of the Government. I want to know what action was taken by the Government on that correspondence. If such correspondence were to appear in the papers, surely any Government, in all humanity, would take immediate action upon it. For aught I can see from the hon. Minister's speech, it appears nothing was done till the question was raised here. I am afraid this was gross negligence on the part of the Surgeon-General. There seems to be something rotten in the State of Denmark. An incident of this sort should never occur at all. If it did occur, my hon. Friend should have taken immediate action on it. In this case, no action having been taken, I think the Government are guilty of culpable negligence. As to the kind of offence which the Government have committed in this matter, it has been stated by them that it was only an error of judgment. I think it is rather too soon to pass that judgment. There must have been something worse than that. If there was culpable negligence, this Dr John ought to be prosecuted and taught a lesson that human life is dear, never mind whether it is European or Indian, Brahman or non-Brahman. If a man like Dr. John has committed an offence involving culpable negligence, he ought to be prosecuted under the Indian Penal Code, whatever might be the section under which his offence is classified (laughter). We do not want to wait until Swaraj party comes into power."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT : —" The hon. Member must realize that an enquiry is being conducted into the conduct of that officer and before that enquiry is completed, it is hardly fair to indulge in any charges and accusations against him May I also repeat the suggestion which I made just a while ago that hon Members should confine their remarks to the alleged negligence of Government in regard to this matter."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" That is just my point. What I want to urge is that the hon. the Chief Minister should not tell us that it is merely an error of judgment that the doctor has committed, but that an enquiry should be made and, if necessary, that doctor should be prosecuted. There is no use of saying that we can wait till the Swaraj party comes into power and so on."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I said that the Surgeon-General was making enquiries in the matter. Government have absolutely nothing to do with the question of Swaraj on this occasion."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : —" Some reference was made to the General Hospital, Madras, and it has been stated that that hospital is the best equipped hospital for in-patients in the whole of India That is rather news to me. No figures have been quoted. The instance of Bombay has been quoted by my hon. Friend, the Raja of Panagal, and I doubt the accuracy of that statement. I am sure, at least at present, a number of hospitals in Bombay such as the King Edward Hospital and other hospitals are better provided than the Madras General Hospital. Well, that is not a very important point and I leave it at that. Even granting that our hospital is better

provided than any other hospital in India, it is not a sufficient consolation to us to say that our hospital is better provided and that occurrences of this kind are few and far between. There should be no occasional occurrences of this sort. I wish to know whether Government made inquiries before on the allegations made in the *Swarajya* paper about this occurrence, and if so what kind of inquiry was made and, if not, why Government waited so long for making this inquiry."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" The text of the report was placed on the Council table previously. Therefore it cannot be said that the inquiry is being made to-day."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I should like to know from what date the inquiry was begun? Was that inquiry started long after the 13th February?

" Now so far as the officers are concerned, the defence put forward by the Government strikes me rather strange. The defence of the Government is that the doctor committed an error of judgment. If the patient had been brought to the General Hospital on the recommendation of another doctor stating that the case was a serious one, Government ought to tell us why the doctor in charge of the hospital did not admit this patient and attend to his case. The report is rather vague as to what the letter from Dr. Krishna Rao contained. If his letter contained a statement that the case of the deceased under reference was very serious—he is a doctor of some standing—and if he had sent the case for admission to the hospital, surely the doctor in charge of the hospital must presume that that was a fit case for admission. Now the defence put forward by Government that the doctor in charge committed an error of judgment in not admitting the patient seems to me to be rather unsound. Government have not realized and appreciated the seriousness of the negligent conduct of the Surgeon in charge.

" Finally I would say that sufficient explanation is not forthcoming from the Government as to when an inquiry was started and whether any inquiry was started at all soon after a report of this occurrence appeared in the papers. Unless an assurance is given by the Government that the present system which is so rotten will be amended immediately, I think this motion for adjournment should be supported by all of us."

3-45 p.m. * Mr. F. NOYCE :—" Sir, I think I can satisfy the last inquirer as to the action taken by the Government in this matter. This unfortunate incident happened on the 8th February and the student died on the 9th. I am not quite certain of the date when the question in regard to it was asked in this Council. I think it was on the 15th, hon Members will correct me if I am wrong When the question was put, I gave an undertaking that the Government would inquire into the matter. A minute or two after doing so, I left the House and went straight to my room and there and then I sent to the Surgeon-General and asked him for a report. He commenced his inquiries immediately, but unfortunately the two students whose evidence in this matter was of the most vital importance had left Madras for Tinnevelly. I understand from the Surgeon-General that he was unable to get hold of them until Thursday last week. His report on the matter reached the Secretariat on Saturday and was put up to me yesterday. The question

was answered this morning. I cannot therefore see that there has been any undue delay on the part of the Government or of the Surgeon-General in making this inquiry."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"This report appeared on the 13th and the Government promised an inquiry. May I know when the inquiry was set on foot ?"

* Mr. F. NOYCE :—" The inquiry, as I have already said, was set on foot on the 15th February, the day on which the question was asked in this Council. I could not do more than that.

"The Government has been accused by the hon. Member for the University of callousness in dealing with this question. I can assure the hon. Member that there is nobody, even on this side of the House, who does not feel equally with him in regard to this unfortunate incident. It is surely no pleasure to the Secretary to the Department or to the Chief Minister who is in charge of it to place a report of this character before the House. It is true that the Government have not specifically expressed their regret. As one of those responsible for the drafting of the answer to this question I am sorry that this was not done, but it seems to me obvious that when the Government placed the Surgeon-General's report before the House in its entirety and when he had expressed regret in his report, it followed from that that the Government associated themselves with every word he had said on the subject.

" I may here explain for the benefit of the House very briefly the principle which is followed in admitting cases into the General Hospital. Every morning the medical officer on duty receives from the various sections of the hospital, the Indian medical and surgical wards, the European medical and surgical wards and the Children's wards which are also arranged under those heads, a statement of the number of vacant beds they have. It is naturally desirable that he should as far as possible regulate admission into the hospital according to the number of beds which are available, but there must obviously be occasions on which this cannot be done. What I wish strongly to emphasise to the House is that the discretion of the medical officer on duty is absolutely unlimited. If he considers that more patients should be admitted than there are beds available, then they have to be admitted. It is not for anybody inside the hospital to question his orders. Beds have got to be provided. If they cannot be provided in the General Hospital, they have to be provided in the hospitals at Rayapuram or Royapetta."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"May I just ask one question ? The hon. Secretary said that the discretion of the medical officer was unlimited. Does it mean the Superintendent or the officer on duty ?"

* Mr. F. NOYCE :—" The officer on duty.

"The hon. Member for the University has referred to the question of European and Indian wards. I do not propose to touch on this except briefly. But I would point out that for reasons of administrative convenience it is desirable that there should be these sections. It is a question to a large extent of the arrangements of the hospital and it is obviously desirable that the European wards should be for only those patients who have

food prepared in the European manner and that the arrangements should be the same in regard to the Indian wards. The wards have to be arranged with reference to the position of the kitchens. What I wish to emphasise again is that this has no bearing on the present matter. There is no question of racial considerations in regard to admission to the hospital. It is simply a question of urgency. If a case is sufficiently urgent, it has to be admitted. I would here inform the House that on the day in question, namely, the 8th February, there were 26 beds vacant in the General Hospital and 29 patients were admitted. This means that three beds had to be improvised. I cannot see any effective system by which the Government could prevent happenings such as those. However good a system, however elaborately it may be regulated on paper, whatever rules may be laid down, it has to be worked by human effort and the unfortunate part of it is that in this case the human element broke down and the medical officer in charge did not realise the seriousness of it."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chettiyar :--"I just need some more information, Sir. It would obviate a speech from me if the matter was cleared a bit further. It is said in paragraph 3 of the Surgeon-General's report, that the duty Assistant Surgeon whose duty it was to admit the patients into the hospital saw all the patients who were earmarked for admission before this officer examines. It is said later on that he selected nine cases out of which he admitted seven cases. But as there were only five vacant beds, he had to provide two additional beds. I wish to know whether this particular case came within the nine or seven."

* Mr. F. Noyce :—"Cases are earmarked for admission by the medical officer himself. He goes over them a second time, if necessary, in order to reduce them to what he considers somewhat nearer the number of beds available. It seems quite obvious from the Surgeon-General's report that the unfortunate lad must have been one of the two cases rejected."

"I was saying, Sir, that however elaborately rules are laid down, we have to depend for their working on human machinery and that in this case the human machine broke down. This House has rightly expressed its sympathy in abundant measure with the relatives of the unfortunate lad who died. Some sympathy seems to be due also to the unfortunate practitioner who has made this mistake which will have, I take it, a most vital effect on his future career. We all make mistakes. The medical profession undoubtedly takes special pride in its profession and I can imagine no worse fate than that this medical practitioner should feel for the rest of his life that he may have brought about the death of this lad.

"There is one other point in this connexion which I would dwell upon. It has been assumed throughout the discussion that the unfortunate lad would not have died if he had been admitted into the hospital immediately. We cannot, to say the least, be quite sure of that In the circumstances of the case, it is quite possible that there was some secret cause which was not apparent when he came to the hospital and which would have brought about his death even if he had been admitted then and there.

"There is one further point to which I should like to refer and that is in regard to the Rayapuram hospital. The evidence clearly establishes that the

boy was not kept waiting for more than 15 or 20 minutes there, that the medical officer came to him from his breakfast at once and would have attended to him immediately had it not been for the fact that the boy had to retire to the lavatory and that in the interval, before he returned, the officer was called upon to attend to another very urgent case of high fever. Thus there seems to be no room for criticism of the Rayapuram medical officer."

* Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar :—"I want only one information Sir. Supposing Mr. John had considered this case to be serious and that the boy would not survive at all, may I know whether it is a fact that for statistical purposes, medical officers are not advised to admit such cases lest the percentage of deaths in the hospital should increase?" (Laughter.)

* Mr. F. Noyce :—"I feel with the hon. Member for the University that this is not a matter for jest."

* Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar :—"I am in earnest, Sir. I wish to be informed whether there are not rules which prevent the officers from admitting cases which are absolutely sure of death so that the percentage of deaths may not be high."

* The hon. the President :—"But the officer, it is stated, did not admit the case because he did not consider it as one sufficiently serious."

* Mr. F. Noyce :—"I emphatically repudiate on behalf of the department any such suggestion. Such a rule exists only in the imagination of the hon. Member.

"I trust, Sir, that I have shown sufficient reasons why this motion should not be carried."

* Mr. R. Veerian :—"Sir, I wish to be serious as far as possible in making my observations in connexion with this adjournment motion. In the first place, Mr. President, let me assure this hon. House that I do not belong to any party which has got artificial brains, artificial legs and artificial eyes. I do belong to a party which has got natural brain, eyes and legs. But, Sir, I am a human being. I really sympathise with the deceased. We will have to take one or two points seriously into consideration. I am sorry that the hon. Member in charge of the portfolio has not made a suitable reply. If he had given one, the whole matter would have come to an end. I hope what I am going to point out will appeal to hon. Members here. Sir, it so happens for some doctors, nay, for all doctors, to send away their patients at the nick of the moment to some other doctor thinking that the patient would not exist any longer. We must understand, Sir, that it is a well-known fact that the Government General hospital has got a very good reputation and, Sir, nobody would care to spoil that reputation. The doctor in charge, Mr. John, should have thought it better that he should maintain the reputation of the Government hospital. But one thing, Sir. The doctor ought to have sympathised or given some words of consolation to the patient. If he had done that tactfully enough, if he had said something to the patient or to the persons who came with the patient, matters would have been settled very amicably. It may be asked, Sir, why he was admitted in the Rayapuram hospital. My humble reply is that the reputation of the Government General hospital is entirely different from that of the Rayapuram hospital.

I think I have satisfied the hon. Members of this House on the question of not admitting the patient into the Hospital. If the lad had expired in the Hospital immediately on his admission, surely the irresponsible people would have concluded that the General hospital was meant only to kill patients who went there. I think it is most probably for that reason that the doctor has cleverly avoided the case. Human beings are such in this world that they are bent upon telling a lot of peculiar things which will never appeal to any reasonable minds I say this from my common-sense point of view. Nobody has asked me to offer these remarks. My hon. Friend, the learned Member for the University, has asked why there should be a difference with reference to beds, viz., European beds and Indian beds Who is responsible for this distinction? Do you think, Sir, that the Europeans know all these distinctions? No, Sir, certainly not. In this country there are, according to the census reports, three thousand and odd different castes and tribes. There may be differences in England according to position and social status. But the same differences are not being observed in this caste-ridden India. I hope hon. Members will excuse me for saying this. We are living in this caste-ridden country and it is we that create all these distinctions. For example, I may point out that there are differences between the so-called depressed classes and the non-depressed classes, in several respects. Why should there be such differences between man and man. Are the Europeans responsible for all this?

4-0 p.m. "It is we that created everything, and we are responsible for it, and they have learnt all these things from us (laughter). Since there are so many differences among us, they also thought that it would be better for them to have distinctions between Indians and Europeans. So let me repeat once more that they have learnt all these things from us and we are responsible for it. They have not invented all these things. If they had invented all these distinctions originally, then surely we can blame them. But they are not the inventors. The Indians are the inventors of all these things. So, it is for us to remove these distinctions but not for them who are blindly following us. If we remove all these disabilities and distinctions and what not, I am sure they will also follow us. But as long as there are so many distinctions and inequalities, I am sure they will certainly follow us. Let us therefore try our utmost to remove all the distictions that exist among us in the first place to prove that we are united. In the reply it is stated by the Surgeon-General that he is going to deal with the person at fault, and I am sure he is not going to leave that doctor very easily. This is a very important matter, and he is going to deal with that Doctor very severely. Perhaps he may dismiss him, he may suspend him or reduce him or at least warn him very severely. That will be the best way of dealing with the individual at fault, so as to prevent any further such sad and upleasant incidents. I hope, Sir, that the hon. Member for the University, after listening to my remarks, will not press for a division."

* Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar:—"Mr, President, Sir, I am extremely sorry for the unfortunate incident because I have not got materials enough to call it an accident. I really appreciate the help given by those students to that young boy who died and I also appreciate the intention with which the hon. Member for the University moved this adjournment

motion. But, Sir, we, medical people, do not diagnose cases by our stethoscopes and thermometers alone. We diagnose cases also by general condition. Here in this particular case, there comes a motor-car and the patient steps from that motor-car and walks into the out-patients department. Generally if that is a serious case, a motor-car stops at the gate, and a stretcher will be taken to the motor-car to carry the patient to the out-patient department. To say that anybody in the out-patients department in the General Hospital is neglecting cases or is careless about them is not speaking the truth. Let any of the hon. Members of this Legislative Council go and watch there in the mornings. If a dangerous case comes, the students run there and surround the car to learn something about the disease. Then the stretcher is brought and the patient is carried inside. A number of people surround that car if it is a serious case. Again, Sir, that patient is taken to the ward, and there is the surgeon or physician waiting to give clinics on that case if that is really a serious one. So many things there are that are done when a serious case comes, there is so much help both voluntary and involuntary afforded when such a case is taken to the General Hospital. Then, the treatment given by these physicians and surgeons in the General Hospital is superhuman, which most probably the Members of this Legislative Council do not know. I have got experience of it. What about Colonel Elwes? What about the present Surgeon-General, Major-General Symons, and what about the various physicians and surgeons of the General Hospital? Sir, some time ago in this Council when they reduced dietary charges to the patients in the General Hospital, was it not Colonel Elwes that put up a strong fight. He said that he would have no patients at all instead of having to treat those starving ones in the hospital. Such is the sympathy shown in the General Hospital. I do not speak about the other hospitals, but I can assure hon. Members of this House about the treatment in the General Hospital. Generally if a doctor hears that a man is suffering from dysentery, he does not think that it is very serious. This particular case in question might have been serious, but he (doctor) generally thinks that it is not serious taking the general condition into consideration. If a man suffering from dysentery is in a very bad state, he will be prostrate and will have to be carried by others, and in such a case certainly this Dr. John or anybody else would have taken special steps about it. But here the patient had the vitality to walk to the out-patients department. Then, it is most probable that there were cases demanding his attention, cases much more serious than this. There might have been very serious cases of pneumonia with 105 degrees temperature. There might have been other serious cases. There might have been cases of valvular disease of the heart. And most probably that poor Dr. John might have given preference to such patients He might have thought that this was not so serious a case. Again, Sir, his hands are tied. He is told that there are only five beds and he must admit only five patients. What can he do? How can he admit all cases? He, of course, extended his generosity and admitted seven patients that day, while only five beds were vacant. Most probably those cases were more serious than the present case. Most probably this particular case was not in a serious condition at that stage; and it was a dysentery case. The patient was admitted into the Rayapuram hospital on the morning of the 8th, and on the 9th he died. The patient had more than 12 hours' existence, or it may be 24 hours. That shows that the patient

had enough of vitality, and that he was not in such a bad condition at that time. It may be a bad case of dysentery, and the patient was not then in a serious condition. Most probably he had many motions in the Rayapuram hospital and there was a sudden collapse and the patient died. And how is Dr. John of the General Hospital responsible for what happened in the Rayapuram Hospital? Dr. John here did his duty. Dr. John admitted more serious cases than this case."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" How do you know ? "

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" As he is speaking on the Government side."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" It is by common sense. It is the experience of a medical man. And I hope when the Surgeon-General enquires into Dr. John's case he will take all these circumstances into consideration, instead of stating here that it was an error of judgment. It cannot be an error of judgment on the part of Dr. John. So I appeal to the Surgeon-General and the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government to see that Dr. John is not unnecessarily criticized or punished on account of the proceedings of this Council. (A voice: 'Poor John'.) Of course, I have got very great respect to this Council, but there is the fact that these are the speeches of laymen. So I request the Government to see that they are considerate to Dr. John. I think he did his best. He acted according to what he was asked to do by the medical authorities there. Then, Sir, as to earmarking, I may say this. There are cases coming in. There is the assistant surgeon sitting in the out-patients department. He marks those that want to get admitted into the hospital. He marks them and sends them to one authority above him, who in turn sends them, if they are very serious, inside the hospital for admission. I am telling all these things because these are the bare facts, and I hope the Surgeon-General will take them into consideration in judging Dr. John. Really I am very sorry for the incident. I love life and I love youthful lives especially. They are the props of our country. No life should be lost if we can help it, because a life lost can never be recovered. Then, as to the question of European and Indian beds, I would ask my hon. Friends how many of us would like to be in the European ward with the European patients ? How many will remain there ? "

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" O yes. I will do it."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" Many of us will not. In first-class compartments, if a European gets in, we Indians spring back, and go to another compartment. (A voice : 'No.'). I know many Indians have done so. We, Indians, want to have India for ourselves. In a particular ward you want only Indians to be admitted, but not Europeans and Indians together, not on account of any particular reason, but, as the hon. the Chief Minister remarked, because we, by nature, do not mix with Europeans. That is my experience in the hospitals. Indians, and especially orthodox Brahman gentlemen, will never be in the European wards."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" I will be."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"I am speaking the truth. What is the use of objecting to it. I say it and I stick to it because it is founded on facts. With these remarks I request the Surgeon-General to be very careful in judging Dr. John. At the same time, I am extremely sorry for what has happened. It might have been a natural incident, and death might not have been caused because he was refused admission. No, the boy was in a good condition, but on account of the many motions he was having, might have suddenly collapsed and died."

Rao Bahadur C. V. S NARASIMHA RAJU :—"Mr. President, Sir, we are not now discussing whether Mr. John has acted properly in refusing admission or not. His conduct will form the subject of a separate enquiry by the Surgeon-General and I hope the Surgeon-General will deal with him adequately if he finds that there was really a breach of duty on his part. But we have to consider whether the existing system is at all satisfactory and whether the death of this young boy was due to any defect in the existing system. It has been said by the hon. the Chief Minister as well as by the Secretary for Local Self-Government that in emergency cases there is not any limit as to the number of patients to be admitted and that there is sufficient elasticity in the system to increase admissions if there are cases of emergency. But the information furnished by Government clearly shows that there are two processes of elimination in admitting emergency cases. First of all, all cases for admission as emergency cases will be earmarked, and at a later stage, perhaps depending on the number of beds available, a further process of elimination takes place. In this case we were told that according to the first earmarking nine cases were earmarked as fit cases for admission. For what reasons and under what circumstances a further elimination was made by the same Dr. John we are not told. Perhaps there was a system of adjusting the admissions to the available number of beds, though there is unlimited scope for admission. I believe therefore that there is some real defect in the administration of the hospital. If you give unlimited scope to all emergent cases, why should you ask the same officer to go through another process of further selection? If the officer who first examined a case considers that it is a case of emergency and a case fit for admission, let the patient be taken straight off, because at the same time the Government tell us that there is no limit as to the number of beds when it is a case of emergency. Really there is something defective, and I hope the hon. the Chief Minister will look into the matter and see that the unlimited nature of admission will be given free scope and that all patients in really emergent cases do receive relief. In this connexion, the hon, Representative for Madras, our doctor expert, said that this Council has curtailed the expenditure on diet of patients. As far as my memory goes, there is not an instance when this Council has curtailed that expenditure. On the other hand, it was one of the Opposition Members, Dr. Rama Rao, who drew attention to the curtailment of diet charges by the Chief Minister on his own initiative."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"It was done so on the recommendation of a committee appointed by the Government to see if any retrenchments could be effected in hospital charges."

* Rao Bahadur C. V. S NARASIMHA RAJU :—"We are not discussing whether the hon. the Chief Minister was justified in interfering with the dietary charges. Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar wanted to throw the blame on this Council, and I want to say that the responsibility is not on our shoulders. Of course, we are not examining here whether the hon. the Chief Minister is justified in the curtailment or not. Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar threw the blame on us. I may say that, as a matter of fact, the Opposition did object to the curtailment."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"I too had opposed it from the

4-15 p.m. Opposition benches."

Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—"We now cease to recognize him as an Opposition Member because he has left the Opposition. I want to draw the attention of the House in respect of another matter that was incidentally introduced in this debate, viz., the reservation of wards for Europeans and Indians on a compartmental system. This is an old trouble even in the old Legislative Council. When we had the advantage of having another expert doctor, Dr. Nair in this House, he pointed out that there was no justification for continuing this compartmental system of racial discrimination and he himself suggested the regulations to be made for the utilization of the various wards."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"I too say that I do not wish that to be continued."

* Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—"The hon. Dr. Nair, whose leadership even to-day he acknowledges, did say that there should not be this distinction based upon races. He wanted that regulations must be drawn and that an Indian or European, whoever wanted to live in the European style, should be given rooms in the European ward. For his information and the information of the House I want to quote the words of Dr. Nair in the debate in 1914–15 when a proposition was moved by Mr. Kesava Pillai and seconded by another revered leader of their party, the late Mr. Subbarayalu Reddiyar."

The hon. the Raja of Panagal rose from his seat.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Order, order."

* Rao Bahadur C. V. S. Narasimha Raju thereupon resumed his seat.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I do not see the point. Has the leader of the Opposition yielded?"

* Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—"I yielded to him when you said 'Order, order'."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I said 'Order, order' when two Members were on their feet."

* Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—"I understood that when you said 'Order, order' one should yield."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"I want to correct a statement. Indians who live in European style are admitted into the so-called European wards. European wards are not wards intended for Europeans and only men born in Europe. Others who live in European style are admitted in these wards."

* Rao Bahadur C. V. S. Narasimha Raju :—" After this lucid statement of the hon. Minister, I do not propose to labour that point. "

* Rao Bahadur M. C. Raja :—" It was not my original intention to intervene in this debate. But when I see the frank report of the Surgeon-General, I am compelled to say a few words. He says that it is possible that certain accidents will occasionally happen even when the greatest care is exercised. Such accidents occur every day in the hospitals. One reason is that in these hospitals space is limited. Unless the Council votes enormous sums of money for the provision of a number of extra beds it is not possible for the superintendents of these hospitals to provide beds for all that go every day. Moreover, as a matter of fact, I do not think Mr. John—whom I do not know—would have exercised an error of judgment. For, I know that these doctors take up the service of doctoring patients out of humanitarian feelings. As a matter of fact if he had really thought he was dying he would have certainly provided extra bed for this patient. The only thing he could have done is this. He could have telephoned to the Rayapuram hospital or the Royapetta Hospital and found out whether a bed was vacant. If there was any vacant, he could have got an ambulance car and transported the patient. That was the only thing he did not do. Moreover the hon. Member pointed out that there should be no distinction as Indian bed and non-Indian bed in hospitals. May I ask whether he knows instances where there are caste beds and caste wards in the hospitals ? (Hear, hear). My Friend, Mr. Satyamurti, who is an ardent Swarajist, who always advances Indian aspirations, should see first and foremost that the caste beds in all these aided hospitals are abolished and equal privileges are given to patients belonging to my community. If he had taken that question my community would thank him all the more. The hon. Member, Mr. Satyamurti, said that he had travelled throughout Europe and found no such distinction and added 'here where our hospitals are managed by Indians or Swarajists he finds every day these crimes perpetrated.' In all these hospitals where public money, or rather the tax-payers' money, is spent, the money is spent for the caste people and not for the members of my community."

* The hon. the Raja of Panagal :—" No."

* Rao Bahadur M. C. Raja :—" The hon. Minister says ' no '."

* Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" I am comparatively ignorant. I would ask the hon. Minister to state whether in aided hospitals there are caste and non-caste beds."

* The hon. the Raja of Panagal :—" No."

* Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" Then what is the statement about ? "

* Rao Bahadur M C. Raja :—" I will respectfully call the attention of the hon Minister for Local Self-Government and my esteemed Friend, the hon. Member for the University, to the existence of caste wards in hospitals in the City of Madras here."

Voices :—" Maintained by whom ? "

*Rao Bahadur M. C. Raja :—"As a matter of fact, the patients belonging to my community are huddled in huts in the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital and not in the main buildings. Even to-day this is taking place in the City of Madras."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" There are caste wards in the Government hospitals. I have only to say that there is nothing like that in Government hospitals."

* Rao Bahadur M. C. RAJA :—" In the local board hospitals, Sir."

VOICES :— " No, no."

* Rao Bahadur M. C. RAJA :—" If they say 'no', it is only a conjecture. Let them travel about and then say 'no'."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" So far as Coimbatore is concerned, I have seen many hospitals and I do not think there is anything like that. It may be in other places."

Rao Sahib P V. GOPALAN :—" So far as Malabar is concerned Sir, ..."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Before this catches on among the members of the other districts I would ask Mr. Raja to continue his remarks."

* Rao Bahadur M. C. RAJA :—" Sir, it is a matter of every day occurrence. Even in the educational institutions and hostels you have got this compartmental system."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member will confine himself to the hospitals."

* Rao Bahadur M. C. RAJA :—" Then, Sir, poor Mr. John is innocent, I think. When generally a patient goes in a motor car he gets more attention. As a matter of fact he has been accompanied by two other law students. He has gone with another recommendation letter from a leading practitioner in the City of Madras Under these circumstances Mr. John would not have ignored him. In his judgment he thought that the other patients should be admitted. Moreover, as regards the European and non-European wards I know as a matter of fact that in the General Hospital Indians are allowed in the European wards. I know an Indian friend of mine who after paying a certain sum of money was admitted in the European ward. I visited him in the hospital on a number of occasions. Therefore it is clear that they do not make any difference as to Indians and non-Indians. Moreover the Madras General Hospital has a name of its own and as a matter of fact now it has been under the able supervision of Lieut.-Colonel Choudhri. I know him for the last twenty years. He takes very great interest in his work. He also exercises very great vigilance over his assistants."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR : —" Sir, I consider that my hon Friend, Mr. Satyamurti, has done a service to the patient public of this City in focussing the attention of this House on this question. I refuse to agree with the Government that this question is not due to a defect in the system. I have very carefully listened to the speech of the hon. Member, Mr. Noyce, who seems to be of the opininion, as the Surgeon-General has already reported, that this particular doctor was wrong in judging the case. From the very answer which has been given it is evident that the doctor had picked up this case as one of the nine serious cases which deserved to be admitted in the General Hospital. There was a second examination. The reason for

making a second examination, as has been observed by the hon. Leader of the Opposition, is obvious. Though the rules might have been stated to be elastic and flexible the scope and the space in the General Hospital might not be sufficient enough to warrant this doctor to admit this case also. Sir, though this case has accidently received the publicity which it has now received, for one case which has become public I have no doubt there are a number of cases which have not seen the light of day In that way my Friend, Mr. Satyamurti, has done a great service in bringing this matter to the notice of the Government. It is very unusual, Sir, that the Government should have admitted even in cases of obvious and apparent mistakes that any of their officers had committed an error of judgment. I do not see in this particular instance how this doctor committed an error of judgment. He has selected the serious cases and as a matter of fact provided two additional beds to those whom he considered more serious than this case. I refuse to believe that any doctor is so inhuman as to refuse admission if only the rules could have allowed him to do that. Of course Mr. Noyce has said that the medical officer in charge has got unlimited powers in the matter of admission of cases if he considered them to be serious. We are accustomed to explanations of such sort on the floor of this House and not observing them in practice outside. To quote an analogy, may I invite your attention to the rules of the Famine Code which are considered to be enough to give relief to the people afflicted with famine on account of the failure of monsoon ? Whatever might be the rules, it is left to the Collectors to judge whether a particular area is famine-affected or not. I do not know if there are other instructions than those published and circulated to the Collectors. The Collectors very rarely declare the areas to be famine-affected until people die of starvation in hundreds and thousands. I am therefore inclined to believe that there is no kind of elasticity or flexibility in the working of the rules regarding the admission of patients in excess of the number.

"Therefore, I think they were rather somewhat hasty that the Government should have pronounced that that Doctor had committed an error of judgment. 4-30 p.m. Sir, when I came to this House to speak on this adjournment motion I was inclined to find fault with the Doctor thinking that he was inhuman, but he was a rare specimen of humanity who had been in the hospital, to have treated that case in that fashion when he knew that it was a serious one. But the more I read the answer given by the Government, the more I think, and I sincerely believe, that unless he had some other instructions or some other practice that was observed in the General Hospital, the doctor would have allowed this case also into the hospital (Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar: 'Hear, hear.') Therefore, I should think that the hon. the Minister should have examined the system more than the person, and in that way, if we succeeded in carrying this motion, it is not against the doctor who is concerned, but it is against the system, and it is to impress this aspect of the motion that I have risen to speak, even though I thought that my speech would not carry weight in view of the explanation made by Mr Noyce. It is not known where that Dr Krishna Rao's letter is now, and whether Dr. Krishna Rao has sufficiently drawn the attention of the surgeon as to the seriousnes of the case. That does not, however, alter the view I have taken on this motion."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—" Mr. President, Sir, there are two different portions in the case of this motion now presented to this House. On the first portion, I do not think there is any difference of opinion. That portion involves the idea that the accommodation now available in the General Hospital is perhaps not sufficient for the requirements of these days, that possibly too the medical assistance available is not enough, at any rate, to await all the twenty-four hours of the day and night, as it was put, and to attend to cases that might come in. There is also the other point included in the same part, namely, sympathy and pity for the unfortunate case of the student. Now, on all these points there is absolutely no difference of opinion and there cannot be possibly any. That a student with full of hope for him should have died in the circumstances, when perhaps there was a possibility of saving his life is a matter for regret for all of us, and that every Member of the House will sympathise for the mishap there cannot be any doubt. If in fact it is found that the accommodation in the hospital is not sufficient, I am sure every Member of this House will be glad to vote for any demand made in that connexion either for the beds or for improvements. But, Sir, other questions were raised, and other aspects were dealt with on which we have already seen some difference of opinion. No doubt, the hon. Member for the University told us that there was no personal element in the matter and that he had not anybody in his view that should be punished. But one who has heard the debate, especially in the earlier portions, especially one who has listened to the gentleman who has moved the resolution would not but be carried away with the impression that, after all, what he wanted was the head of poor Dr. John. "

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" On a point of personal explanation, Sir, I do not know that Dr. John, and I do not want that by this motion anybody should be punished. I only want to put an end to the system under which he works or the Minister to go."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—" The cat is out of the bag, Sir. I say that that is exactly my complaint. Sir, if we really were out for finding more funds for the sick and the needy, if we really were for demanding from the Government some more assistance, one can very well understand this motion and support it. But, if are to take any stick that is available to beat the Ministers with and for that purpose if we are to speak of principles, why these platitudes ? Now, you see that the real object of this motion is not so much to find fault with anybody, but with the wicked people on these benches who would not let my hon. Friends opposite to apply section 304-A of the Indian Penal Code to them ; and that is the whole trouble. Now, Sir, on the other point, we have seen the replies. What else can a man in the position of Dr. John do ? Sir, we have known doctors ; we have known cases ; I have known, for instance, a doctor who said when a cousin of mine appeared before him for medical examination for a certain appointment that the man would die in twelve hours. That man has been living all these twelve years, and he has been doing quite well. I have known a case where doctors examined the man for hours and hours together and found nothing wrong, and yet the man died the next day. Poor Mr John ! With all the cases in hand, 7 or 9 of them, he had to make a discrimination as to which was more serious and which should be admitted

first. He examined the patient and thought that the case was not so serious. It may be that he has made an error of judgment, as the Government would say. It may be the disease was not so apparent on the face of it and it might have developed a little later. After all, we are told that the patient was able to walk at that time. And it may be that the other case was so much more serious that any man with common sense or the doctor himself in that position could not have refused admission. Who is to blame? It is all very well and nice to say that the whole system is wrong. The whole system is wrong in my opinion because it is not able to accommodate all. But you have to cut the coat according to the cloth. Then, why this eloquence that the tax-payers' money is squandered away? Indeed, to-day the tables had been turned and arguments had been advanced that you had not provided more beds. By all means, accept every demand made by the Government but do not make use of such an instance as this for your own purpose. Is it fair to blame the Government or poor Mr. John himself for the incident? How many people are not dying like that for want of proper medical assistance? Is it not that every one, though it is not a matter of one's own children, can easily sympathize with them? But to utilize circumstances like that which would ordinarily evoke the sympathy of everybody, and to make use of such an incident to fill this House with our grand eloquence—that I do say is certainly not permissible for hon. Members of this House. I would appeal to you that this incident, however unfortunate, however pitiable, however much it might evoke our sympathy, is one that ordinarily occurs. By all means stop these things, if ever there is anything wrong. But what have you done except to blame Mr. John or the Government? Is it because they have not provided more accommodation or more beds? They will provide more if you are prepared to vote more money. You want more doctors now. A few years ago, you wanted all these doctors to be sent away. I think some 300 assistant surgeons were turned out because of the craze for retrenchment. This House demanded it, and the Minister did it, and we feel the consequence. By all means, if the system is faulty, correct it, but for Heaven's sake do not utilize instances like this for purposes which ought to be far from your minds on this occasion."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"I must, in the first place, acknowledge the very handsome and sympathetic way in which Mr. Noyce spoke on this matter. I thank him for it, and I only wish to add, Mr. President, that had the Government taken that position this morning with regard to expressing regret and sympathy, which they later took up, part of the reason why I wanted to make this motion would have disappeared. But the reason why I desire to press this motion now is that I want there should be such guarantees as human ingenuity can provide to prevent such incidents in the future or at least minimize them. But according to some of my hon. Friends below the gangway, who have out-heroded Herod, even though the Government themselves took up the position that the doctor made an error of judgment, John is not wrong, the system is not wrong, the Government is not wrong, it is not the fault of John that the boy died. . ."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"I have not known Dr. John."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—"Nor I."

* Rao Bahadur M. C. RAJA :—"Nor I, Sir."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" I congratulate them on their disinterested advocacy. The point I wish to make is this. According to my hon. Friend, Dr. John is not to be blamed and he is not to be punished ; the system is not bad ; if it is bad, the responsibility is not the Minister's ; it is ours. That was the strange constitutional doctrine preached by my hon. Friend. The only point I make is, this is a Transferred subject ; the Minister is responsible to this House. But you constantly turn to the Opposition and say ' if you point out difficulties it is your job to remedy them '. Give us a chance to remedy them ; don't say you won't vote the money. To remedy them is your job, and not mine. My point is this : I have nothing to do with Dr John ; I am a Member of this House, I am a representative of the people of this Province, and as a representative I am speaking to the Minister concerned and I have nothing to do with his subordinates. I ask him to give a guarantee that such incidents will not occur again. I ask this House to take steps to prevent, or at least minimize, such incidents in the future. It is in that spirit I have made the motion, and therefore I press it to a division."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Mr. President, I wondered why this motion was tabled, and I wondered long too. But at last the cat is out of the bag. My hon. Friend, the Member for the University, was forced to confess that it was tabled with a view to see the Ministers go out. Now, I understand why so much of bitterness was in evidence."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" What I said was ' either to mend the system or the Ministers to go '. I have no other constitutional remedy. If the system is not mended, I have to ask the Ministers responsible for it to go. What else can I do ? " (Laughter.)

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Now, I see the reason why so much of breath was wasted on the debate on this motion. Two points were pressed. One was that the death is due to the defects in the system and the other that there is not adequate medical relief given in Madras. I must say, after hearing all sides of the question, that the death was due to an accident and not to any defect in the system (Mr. S. Satyamurti : ' Oh ! '). Can it be inferred that the system is bad because there was an accident ? Accidents occur however perfect the system may be. The man was in a bad condition and the doctor who had been attending on him for a number of days found that the case was hopeless. No doubt, at that stage, he was sent to the General Hospital, and the man in charge of admission by an error in judgment did not admit him into the hospital. I concede, he was not able to diagnose the case properly and see that the case was so bad as to be in need of immediate admission. The next day, the man was taken to the Rayapuram hospital. There he was admitted, and in spite of the care bestowed on him, he died.

4-45 p.m. " Now, Sir, what are the defects in the system pointed out by the hon. Members ? As to the second point, one hon. Member said that the number of beds are not sufficient. I quite admit that it is excellent to have many more beds than we have at present. But that means expenditure. And I need hardly remind that there must be a limit to the expenditure on medical relief. The Government no doubt have the duty of giving

medical relief to the people under their care. But is it the only duty they have to attend to? There are other duties: they must provide for the education of the people, they must provide for sanitation, they must provide for the protection of property and person, they must provide for the preservation of law and order, and they must pay for the collection of revenue. These are all the duties of the Government, and they have to find funds to discharge these duties in as efficient a manner as possible. Therefore it is they have to apportion only a certain amount of the funds available to them for being spent on medical relief. Now, consistent with the amount at the disposal of the Government, they have done the best they could. I may point out that the hospital accommodation in Madras and generally speaking, medical relief in Madras, is more efficient than it is in any other of the capital cities in India. (Hear, hear) The hon. Member for South Kanara seems to question the statement. I can assure him that only a few months back when the Bombay Minister in charge of Medicine came here, I had a long talk with him on the subject of medical relief in Bombay. He admitted that the medical relief that Bombay is giving is far less than what Madras is giving. He has been to some of our hospitals and ascertained the statistics of patients, beds, etc. In fact, we have in Madras three general hospitals, three women's hospitals, one tubercular hospital, one ophthalmic hospital, one mental hospital, besides the corporation and minor dispensaries. To say that Madras has not adequate medical relief is to betray ignorance. What about the mufassal? When compared to the medical relief in Madras, the medical relief in the mufassal is practically nothing. We are spending more money on Madras than on the rural areas. Assuming that we have a limited amount to spend on medical relief, if we spend more in Madras, we have to starve the rest. In these circumstances, I do not agree with the Members who complain that the medical relief in Madras is inadequate.

"Sir, sympathy has been expressed for the doctor. Of course, the Surgeon-General will look into the matter and will deal with the case on its merits. As my Friend wanted to have a vote taken, I do not wish to take up the time of the Council. I have only to say that they have not made out a case for a vote in favour of the motion."

Question put and lost.

Mr. Satyamurti asked for a poll and the House divided as follows:—

Ayes.

1. Rao Bahadur C. V. S. Narasimha Raju.
2. ,, T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar.
3. Mr. J. A. Saldanha.
4. ,, A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
5. ,, A. Chidambara Nadar.
6. ,, C. Gopala Menon.
7. ,, K. Koti Reddi.
8. ,, S. Muttayya Mudaliyar.
9. ,, P. Peddiraju.
10. ,, B. P. Sesha Reddi.
11. ,, M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar.
12. Mr. M. Sitayya.
13. ,, V. C. Vellingiri Gounder.
14. ,, S. Satyamurti.
15. ,, T. Adinarayana Chettiyar.
16. ,, C. Marudavanam Pillai.
17. ,, V. Pantulu Ayyar.
18. Rai Bahadur T. M. Narasimhacharlu.
19. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chettiyar.
20. ,, R. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
21. ,, C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar.
22. ,, B. Venkataratnam.
23. ,, C. Venkatarangam Nayudu.

Noes.

1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar.
2. ,, Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks.
3. ,, Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur.
4. ,, Mr. T. E. Moir.
5. ,, Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai.
6. ,, Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro.
7. ,, the Raja of Panagal.
8. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar.
9. ,, G. T. Boag.
10. ,, V. Pandrang Row.
11. ,, F. Noyce.
12. Abdulla Ghatala Sahib.
13. Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udayar.
14. Rao Sahib T. C. Tangavelu Pillai.
15. Mr. K. Prabhakaran Tampan.
16. ,, D. Manjayya Heggade.
17. Rai Bahadur Sir K. Venkatareddi Nayudu.
18. Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar.
19. ,, M. C. Raja.
20. Mr. A. V. Banoji Rao.
21. Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar.
22. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu.
23. Rao Sahib P. V. Gopalan.
24. Mr. L. C. Guruswami.
25. ,, R. Madanagopal Nayudu.
26. Honorary Lieutenant Madurai.
27. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu.
28. Mr. B. Obalesappa.
29. ,, C. Ponnuswami Nayudu.
30. ,, P. Sagaram.
31. Diwan Bahadur P. Kesava Pillai.
32. ,, M. Krishnan Nayar.
33. Mr. P. T. Rajan.
34. ,, K. Sarabha Reddi.
35. ,, K. Sarvarayudu.
36. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan.
37. Diwan Bahadur K. Suryanarayanamurti Nayudu.
38. Mr. R. Veerian.
39. ,, B. Ramachandra Reddi.
40. Khan Bahadur Haji Abdulla Haji Qasim Sahib.
41. ,, P. Khalifulla Sahib.
42. Mr. T. M. Moidoo Sahib.

23 hon. Members voted *for* the motion and 42 *against* it. The motion was lost.

The House adjourned at 4-55 p.m.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 1488 asked by Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 2nd March 1926, page 21 supra.]

Statement showing the reserves in which the Military Grass Farms Department exploited grass during the last ten years in the Bellary district.

Name of reserve.	Area in acres.										
	1915–16.	1916–17.	1917–18.	1918–19.	1919–20.	1920–21.	1921–22.	1922–23.	1923–24.	1924–25.	1925–26.
1. Joga A and B	3,395	3,395	3,395	3,395	3,395	3,395	3,395	3,395	3,395	..	Items 3 and 12 to 15 were leased out for the current year. The quantity of hay cut and the area exploited by the Military Department have not yet been intimated.
2. Tornagallu	352	352	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
3. Ubbalagundi North extension ..	779	..	..	..	779	..	779	779	779	343	
4. Sogi	..	..	7,327	7,327	..	..	..	..	..	..	
5. Bandri	..	..	17,247	17,247	17,247	17,247	17,247	17,247	17,247	..	
6. Chiribi	..	..	..	4,380	..	..	..	..	..	..	
7. Kupgal	..	..	..	..	2,095	2,095	..	..	..	..	
8. Kosigi	..	..	..	..	2,924	..	..	..	..	..	
9. Banavasi	..	..	..	..	..	2,148	..	..	..	..	
10. Thungabadra	..	..	..	..	..	1,668	..	..	..	..	
11. Jajikalgutta	..	..	..	..	..	10,365	10,365	..	..	..	
12. Joga B block only	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,096	
13. Ubbalagundi	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
14. Do. extension	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
15. Marutla	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 1489-A asked by Mr. P. Anjaneyulu at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 2nd March 1926, page 22 supra.]

Copy of letter from the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, R. No. 451-G. of 26, dated 25th February 1926.

With reference to the article appearing in the 'Hindu' dated 12th February 1926, I have the honour to report that I investigated the case and the following are the facts.

2. The late student S. Gopalasundram was brought to the General Hospital by his fellow students in a car on the morning of the 8th instant most probably at 8–30 a.m., as stated by Dr. Krishna Rao, and he walked from the car into the out-patient department and lay on a couch in the verandah.

3. Between 9–30 and 11 a.m., the Duty Assistant Surgeon Mr. K. I. John whose duty it is to admit the patients into the hospital saw all the patients who were earmarked for admission and selected the nine cases which he considered were seriously ill and refused admission to the others for want of vacant beds.

4. The note from Dr. Krishna Rao was seen by Mr. John who examined the patient. The Assistant Surgeon after the examination did not consider the student sufficiently ill to necessitate his ordering an extra bed.

5. On enquiry, it has been ascertained that the students who brought the patient to the hospital tried their best to persuade the Assistant Surgeon to reconsider his decision. The Assistant Surgeon, however, apparently stuck to his original opinion. On the day in question there were five vacant Indian beds and seven cases were admitted.

6. The student's friends after being refused admission obtained a taxi and took the patient back to Dr. Krishna Rao and reported what had occurred at the hospital. Dr. Krishna Rao advised them to proceed at once to the Rayapuram hospital where he was admitted as soon as possible. I say 'as soon as possible' advisedly because apparently it was not done immediately inasmuch as the Duty Assistant Surgeon was engaged in admitting other patients at the time when the student was brought to the hospital. Consequently he could not be attended to immediately. The doctor at Rayapuram at first stated that inasmuch as the patient arrived after out-patient hours he could not be admitted. He, however, upon realizing the condition of the patient made arrangements to admit him at once and this was done.

7. From the above statements it is obvious that a very regrettable and unfortunate incident has occurred due to the fact that the medical man in charge of the admissions at the General Hospital did not attach sufficient importance to the condition of the patient.

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8. In the extenuation of the circumstances I would point out that at the General Hospital, like most hospitals, there are invariably a larger number of patients seeking admission than there are vacant beds. I may add that I have been Resident Medical Officer at the above hospital for a good many years and know the difficulties in which the Medical officers who admit patients are placed. It becomes practically a daily experience of shroffing out those patients who should be admitted and those who could afford to wait and come again another day. It is possible that such accidents will occasionally happen even if the greatest care be exercised. In this particular case the Assistant Surgeon made a mistake which unfortunately was followed by most disastrous results.

9. The Surgeon-General proposes to deal with the Assistant Surgeon departmentally.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Thursday, the 4th March 1926.

The House met at 11 o'clock, with Mr. President (the hon. Mr. M. RUTHNASWAMY, M.A., Bar.-at-Law) in the chair.

PRESENT:

Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E., The hon. Sir C. P.
Marjoribanks, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. N. E.
Usman Sahib Bahadur, The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad.
Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. T. E.
Raja of Panagal, The hon. the.
Patro, *Kt.*, The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Sivagnanam Pillai, *Kt.*, The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N.
Abbas Ali Khan, Mr.
Abdul Hye Sahib, Mr.
Abdulla Ghatala Sahib, Mr.
Adinarayana Chettiyar, Mr. T.
Anjaneyulu, Mr. P.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
Arpudaswami Udayar, Mr. S.
Arumuga Nadar, Mr. P. K. S. A.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.
Boag, Mr. G. T.
Chidambara Nadar, Mr. A.
Cruz Fernandez, Rao Bahadur.
Davis, Mr. J. A.
Devendrudu, Mr. N.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Sahib S.
Ethirajulu Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur P. C.
Evans, C.S.I., Mr. F. B.
Ghouse Mian Sahib, Mr. Muhammad.
Gopala Menon, Mr. C.
Gopalan, Rao Sahib P. V.
Guruswami, Mr. L. C.
Haji Qasim Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Haji Abd-ul-lah.
Hegde, Mr. Naganna.
Heggade, Mr. D. Manjayya.
Kesava Pillai, C.I.E., Diwan Bahadur P.
Khadir Mohiddin Elyas Khan Sahib, Mr.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Krishna Rao Pantulu, Rao Bahadur A. S.
MacDougall, *Kt.*, Sir Alexander.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Madurai, Honorary Lieutenant.
Marakkayar Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur V. Hamid Sultan.
Marthandam Pillai, Mr. P. N.
Maruthavanam Pillai, Mr. C.
Moidu Sahib, Mr. T. M.
Muhammad Sahib, Mr. T. N.
Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. C.
Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. S.
Muttu Chettiyar, Mr. P. C.
Narasimha Raju, Rao Bahadur C. V. S.
Narayanaswami Pillai, Mr. T. M.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Noyce, C.S.I., C.B.E., I.C.S., Mr. F.
Obalesappa, Mr. B.
Pandrang Row, Mr. V.
Pantulu Ayyar, Mr. V.
Peddiraju, Mr. P.
Prabhakaran Tampan, Mr. K.
Raja, Rao Bahadur M. C.
Raja of Ramnad.
Rajan, Mr. P. T.
Ramachandra Reddi, Mr. B.
Raman, Rao Bahadur P.
Ramalinga Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
Ramalinga Reddi, Mr. C.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Sagaram, Mr. P.
Saldanha, Mr. J. A.
Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Sarabha Reddi, Mr. K.
Sarvarayudu, Mr. K.
Sasibhushan Rath Mahasayo, Sriman.
Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Seturatnam Ayyar, Mr. M. R.
Sitarama Reddi, Mr. K.
Siva Rao, Mr. P.
Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. R.
Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subramania Pillai, Mr. K. Chavadi.
Sundaramurti, Rao Sahib P. V. S.
Suryanarayanamurti Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur K.
Tangavelu Pillai, Rao Sahib T. C.
Uppi Sahib, Mr. K.
Veerian, Mr. R.
Vellingiri Gounder, Mr. V. C.
Venkatachala Padayachi, Mr. K.
Venkatapati Razu, Mr. P. C.
Venkataramana Ayyangar, Mr. C. V.
Venkatarangam Nayudu, Mr. C.
Venkataratnam, Mr. B.
Venkatareddi Nayudu, *Kt.*, Rai Bahadur Sir K.
Wood, Mr. C. E.

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15 on the 4th December 1924.*

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The Secretary shall call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Tours.

Tour of the hon. the Minister for Development to Bombay.

*1508 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state the object of his tour to Bombay and Poona in January 1926?

A.—The object of the tour was to attend the Conference of Registrars of Co-operative Societies which was held at Bombay. Opportunity was taken of the tour to visit the Agricultural College at Poona on the way.

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"May I ask the hon. the Minister whether the particular conference was attended by other Ministers from other provinces?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"I believe two other Ministers attended."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"May I ask what are the new things which the hon. Minister observed at this conference and profited by?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Please repeat the question."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"The hon. Minister attended the Conference of Registrars of Co-operative Societies at Bombay. I wish to know whether any new system or anything of the kind was observed by him there?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"That is a matter for a separate question and not for a supplementary question."

Education.

Revision of pay of women officers in Educational Service.

*1509 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether consequent on the Government's scheme of

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revision of pay a large number of women officers in the Educational Service have been forced to suffer a substantial reduction in their pay and to refund the amount drawn in excess by them, and, if so, the reasons for this unfair treatment?

A.—The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" May I know when the decision is likely to be reached ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" As early as possible."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" The answer is very vague and indefinite. Cannot the hon. Minister give us the approximate time even in months ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" I am afraid it is not possible to say more than what I have already said."

Admission of Adi-Dravida students into the Board Elementary school, Salem taluk.

* 1510 *Q.*—Mr. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) why admission of Adi-Dravida pupils was refused by one teacher Arumugam Pillai appointed in the newly started Board Elementary school in a central place between Rakipatti and Ettimanickampatti run by the Salem taluk board, Salem district ; and

(*b*) whether any action was taken by the Director of Public Instruction in the matter on the petition, dated 3rd January 1926, submitted by the Adi-Dravidas of Ettimanickampatti village, Salem taluk, and if so, with what results ?

A.—The Government have called for a report.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" The answer to this question is : ' The Government have called for a report.' This is a very common answer in almost all these cases."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order, order. Question please."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" I want to know whether the Government have already taken any effective steps with reference to the admission of depressed classes pupils into schools run under public management except sending some circulars saying that all classes should be admitted without any distinction whatever."

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" Circulars were issued and warnings were given. Further, District Educational Officers were asked to look into the matter carefully."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know whether any grant was withdrawn ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" Public bodies which have not carried out the orders contained in the Government Order were warned."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" Is it not a fact that there is a condition precedent to the recognition and payment of grant that no body should refuse admission to students ? "

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The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That question does not arise. The Government have called for a report in regard to the matter mentioned in the question."

Stipends to elementary school teachers belonging to the depressed classes.

* 1511 *Q.*—Mr. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any steps were taken to amend the Educational Rules concerned with a view to give the same amount of stipends to elementary school teachers belonging to the depressed classes as that of Muhammadans while they undergo training in training institutions ; if so, when and what is the amount now given ;

(*b*) whether any steps were taken to give guardian allowance in the case of depressed classes women also while they undergo training for elementary and other grades as in the case of caste Hindu and Muhammadan mistresses ;

(*c*) if not, why not ; and

(*d*) if the concerned Educational Rules were amended, when the rules were amended and what amount of guardian allowance the caste Hindu, Muhammadan and depressed class women mistresses get accordingly ?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to Notification No. 323, dated the 9th December 1925, published at page 521 of Part I-B of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 29th December 1925.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" With reference to all the clauses of this question the Government have asked me to refer to *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 29th December 1925. I do not find anything there about giving guardian allowance to depressed classes women also while they undergo training for elementary and other grades as in the case of caste Hindu and Muhammadan mistresses. May I know why such a differentiation is made ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" Notice, Sir."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know the reason why this was not considered beforehand ? "

Alleged memorial from the teacher-managers of elementary schools, Mangalore.

* 1512 *Q.*—Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the teacher-managers of elementary schools in the Mangalore taluk submitted a memorial to the Government detailing their various grievances and praying among other things that (1) the teaching grant be enhanced and (2) the capitation grant be revived ; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Government intend taking any action in the matter ?

A.—(*a*) No such memorial has been received.

(*b*) Does not arise.

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Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE :—"I want to know whether the Government are aware that the teacher-managers have represented that the teaching grant should be enhanced."

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Yes; representations with regard to the general grievances of teacher-managers were received as is seen from the resolutions of the association and other papers."

Selection of centres for location of new schools.

*1513 Q.—Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the right of selecting centres or villages for the location of new schools is vested in the educational officers and not in the local boards?

A.—The location of the schools should be settled by the presidents of local boards in consultation with the district educational officer and the president of the district educational council concerned.

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—"Seeing that the question refers to new schools both board and aided schools, may I know from the hon. the Minister for Education whether the presidents of local boards have anything to do with initiation or starting of schools aided by the Government?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"The presidents of local boards will have nothing to do with aided institutions."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—"May I know, seeing that there are several cases in which aided schools spring up, where there are board schools already and healthy competition results, whether any steps are taken to consult local boards before such schools are started?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"The whole position is this: An educational survey has been made of the school centres, i.e., centres without any school. The local bodies have been starting institutions where there are already good working aided institutions. Therefore the district educational authorities take the lists and consult the presidents of taluk boards if possible and submit the lists to the Government. Thereupon aided institutions are encouraged."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—"With reference to the educational survey which the hon. the Minister has referred to, may I know if the district educational officer was instructed when making the survey to consult either the local bodies or the district educational authorities?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"If it affected any local board area, the district educational officer might have consulted the local board concerned. But if it affected aided agencies only, the local bodies have no concern with it."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—"With reference to the educational survey the results of which have been published, I may say that it affects both aided and board schools. May I know therefore if the Department of Education have given directions to the educational officers to consult local boards and district educational councils before sending up proposals for expanding schools?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"The educational survey is now complete and the results of that survey are now in operation."

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Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—"My question has not been answered. My question is whether the Government have issued instructions to their educational officers to consult local boards and district educational councils. (After a pause) I have twice repeated the question and yet the hon. the Minister has not answered it."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"In the case of difference of opinion between these people, may I know whose opinion will prevail?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"I am not able to follow, Sir. Difference of opinion between whom?"

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"Between the district educational officer and the president of the local board."

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"When the matter comes up, the Government will finally decide."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—"Seeing that the hon. the Minister has not answered my question, I would ask this question. Has the attention of the hon. the Minister been drawn to the fact that the report on the educational survey of the Nellore district was to the effect that there were no places for schools being started and that such a report was made without consulting the local boards or the district educational council?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"The district educational officers are very able and experienced officers and their opinion of the educational survey was accepted by the Government."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—"Apart from the ability of any educational officer, I wish to know whether the Government have countenanced the sending up of proposals for expansion of education without consulting their own creatures—the district educational councils or the local bodies."

Excise.

Alleged illegal sale of toddy at Pudupalayam village.

*1514 Q.—Mr. V. PANTULU AYYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there was an open illegal sale of toddy at Pudupalayam in Tiruchengodu taluk (Salem district) on the local Mariamman festival day on 9th December 1925 last which was reported in the *Hindu* of the 22nd December 1925; and

(b) whether the Abkari officers have held any enquiry and whether they have been able to book the offenders?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information but a report has been called for.

Mr. V. PANTULU AYYAR :—"Sir, the *Hindu* published a report of the occurrence as early as 22nd December 1925 and I myself have drawn the attention of the Government three months back. Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state how this inexplicable delay has arisen in obtaining information on a matter of such public importance as a breach of law and why no information has been collected and no action taken as yet?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"A report has been called for, Sir."

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Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" May I ask the hon. Minister whether he was informed or is otherwise aware that the people residing in the Asramam near which place the man was caught red-handed, collected evidence and placed it before the Assistant Commissioner of Excise to prove this transaction ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" I repeat, I have no information nor am I aware of it."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know whether the Government are aware that such illicit sales are very common in cocoanut topes where toddy is tapped ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Where ? In what part of the Presidency ? "

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" I have travelled through several districts, Salem, Coimbatore, North Arcot, South Arcot, Tanjore, Madura, etc."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Pudupalayam in Tiruchengodu is quite enough for us this morning."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" Very well, Sir. Confining my attention to Salem district alone, it is very common in Salem district as there are several cocoanut topes. Now, may I know whether the Government have taken any effective steps to prevent such illicit sales ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" Yes, it is very unfortunate and regrettable that a good deal of illicit distillation of arrack and toddy is going on in Salem, Coimbatore and some other places. To stop this kind of thing, a new circle has been formed to strengthen the preventive staff."

Mr. V. C. VELLINGIRI GOUNDER :—" May I know whether the report was called for before or after the question was received ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" On receipt of the question the report was called for."

Mr. V. C. VELLINGIRI GOUNDER :—" That is how the attention of the officers is drawn to such practices."

Mode of search by Abkari officers.

* 1515 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state what action has been taken on the following prayer made by the Committee of the Kanara Indian Christian Civic League to the hon. the Minister during his visit to Mangalore in November last ?—

" That the hon. Minister be pleased to move that an Excise officer, before making a search of a house or open place and before seizing any article, shall call upon two or more respectable inhabitants of the locality in which the place to be searched is situated to attend and witness the search."

A.—The existing law requires that searches by Abkari officers should be made in the presence of witnesses and this in practice is being done. The Government do not therefore propose to take any action in the matter.

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Mr. A. Chidambara Nadar :—" The answer is : 'The existing law requires that searches by Abkari officers should be made in the presence of witnesses . . .' May I know, Sir, whether these searches are made in the presence of respectable inhabitants as prayed for in the petition ? "

The hon. the President :—" Will the hon. Member kindly repeat the question ? "

Mr. A. Chidambara Nadar :—" This question relates to the hon. the Minister for Education. The answer is that searches are made in the presence of witnesses. But what has been prayed for in the petition is that searches should be made in the presence of two or more respectable inhabitants of the locality. What I want to know is whether the Government require that these searches should be made in the presence of respectable inhabitants of the locality."

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro :—" I suppose witnesses called in are always respectable."

Mr. P. Anjaneyulu :—" May I know if these witnesses include also some of the Abkari staff as it sometimes happens ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro :—" If that is the personal experience of my hon. Friend, certainly that will be examined."

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—" I want to know whether there is any presumption that all witnesses are respectable. The presumption as also the practice is otherwise."

The hon. the President :—" That is a matter of opinion, evidently "

Depressed Classes.

Announcement of G.O. No. 2660, L. & M., in Komaralingam village.

* 1516 *Q.*—Mr. R. Veerian : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware that the depressed classes have no free access to the post office in the agraharam of Komaralingam village, Udamalpet taluk, Coimbatore district, through the agraharam pathway ;

(*b*) whether the G.O. No. 2660, L. & M., dated the 25th September 1924, was announced in the Komaralingam agraharam, Udamalpet taluk, Coimbatore district ; and

(*c*) if the contents of the Government Order were not announced in Komaralingam agraharam, the reason for not announcing the same ?

A.—(*a*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 611 asked at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th October 1925.

(*b*) & (*c*) The Government have no reason to think that the Government Order referred to has not been published.

Mr. R. Veerian :—" Sir, here the Government are referring me to question No. 611 in the answer to which I find the following : 'The Local Government have no administrative control over the location of post offices' Now, Sir, the question involved in this is with reference to the depressed

classes and all classes of people passing through the public path-way in Agraharams. The depressed classes are allowed through the backyards like jackals."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member should not use expressions which are not necessary for the putting of this question."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" Very well, Sir. I will not do so hereafter (laughter). But, I feel that the so-called depressed classes are treated worse than beasts and that is why I put that technical word 'jackal' (laughter). I want to know, since the depressed classes are not allowed to pass through the public Agraharams whether the G.O. No. 2666, dated 25th September 1924, passed in that connexion is being observed."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Yes, Sir, the Government Order has been published. The answer I gave to the hon. Member on the 29th October 1925, holds good to-day."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" I am glad for that answer, Sir. But the hon. the Home Member was kind enough to say in his answer, dated 29th October 1925, that if specific instances were brought to the notice of the Government he would take necessary action. Here is a specific instance and therefore may I know whether he is going to ask the Police to take effective steps in the matter ? " 11-15 a.m.

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" We have brought the matter to the notice of the Postmaster-General."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" This is a question of law, Sir, and therefore may I know what the Postmaster-General can do in this matter ? He can only remove the post office to some other place ; but he cannot do anything in connexion with the depressed classes being prevented from passing through those streets ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" All that we thought was that if the post office was removed to some other place the trouble would stop."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" But we have been deprived of the privilege of passing through the public pathway, Sir ? May I expect a suitable answer in connexion with that right of way ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I submit Sir, that that question does not arise out of the answer I have given."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I ask the hon. the Home Member why the post office should be removed from that place ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" It is not a matter for the Government of Madras."

Announcement of G.O. No. 2660, L. & M., in Singanullur agraharam.

* 1517 Q.—Mr. R VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the G.O. No. 2660, L. & M., dated the 25th September 1924, was announced in the Singanallur agraharam, Singanallur, Coimbatore taluk, Coimbatore district ;

(b) what was the necessity to shift the post office which was located inside the agraharam to a corner of the agraharam; and

(c) whether the Government are aware that even to the present post office located in the corner of the agraharam, the depressed classes have no free access by the public pathway to transact business in the post office straight away like others?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 1516.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"Here, again, I am referred to the same question, Sir. I myself went to the same post office. I was asked not to get on the pial. The postman came to me and said I might transact the business through him; but I did not do so in order to maintain my position and dignity. (Hear, hear from Mr. Ramalinga Reddi). I want to know whether the Government are not going to respect the feelings of the members of the so-called depressed classes as they respect the feelings of the other classes."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"We are respecting the feelings of the depressed classes and therefore we have brought this matter to the notice of the Postmaster-General."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government will not bring this to the notice of the District Collector so that he might take suitable action?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"The District Collector has nothing to do with this matter."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, this question refers to the right of the depressed classes to go through a public pathway. I want to know where the Postmaster-General comes in here. May I know whether the Government will not ask the District Magistrate to take suitable action on behalf of the depressed classes and allow them to go through the public pathway."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"The trouble did not arise with regard to the use of the public pathway."

Adi-Andhra Conference, Nellore and Adi-Dravida Conference, Vadathorasalur.

*1518 *Q.*—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether they have received the copies of resolutions of the Nellore District Fifth Adi-Andhra Conference, Nellore, held on the 30th December 1925 at Nellore as well as the resolution of the Adi-Dravida Conference held on 23rd November 1925 at Vadathorasalur in the South Arcot district; and

(b) if so, how many and which resolutions have been acted on?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The resolutions have been communicated to the Commissioner of Labour.

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Land Revenue.

Assignment of darkhast lands in Kamalapuram.

* 1519 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: With reference to question No. 1055 answered at the meeting of the Council on the 15th December 1925 regarding assignment of darkhast lands in Kamalapuram, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) why lands were assigned to several Brahmans though they had not served in the army during the Great War; and

(b) whether any action has been taken upon the petitions submitted up to this to the Tahsildar, Revenue Divisional Officer and the Labour Commissioner by the members of the depressed classes of Kamalapuram village for assigning darkhast lands and house-sites?

A.—(a) The Government have no information whether any of the caste Hindus mentioned in the answer to Question No. 1055 are Brahmans. It is open to caste Hindus, including Brahmans to darkhast for lands not reserved for the depressed classes or ex-soldiers.

(b) The Collector will be requested to see that the orders on these applications are communicated to the applicants.

Assignments of waste lands adjoining public roads in South Kanara.

* 1520 Q.—Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that in South Kanara assignments of waste lands adjacent to public roads are limited to 22 yards from the road margin;

(b) whether it is a fact that formerly the rule was not applied in cases where the waste lands adjacent to such roads fell within the kumaki limits of wargdars; and

(c) whether it is a fact that of late under a circular issued by the Collector the kumakidar's 100 yards limit is cut short by the 22 yards of road margin?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have no information and have called for a report.

Levy of demarcation fees in South Kanara.

* 1521 Q.—Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state with reference to the answer to my question No. 115 answered on 19th August 1925, regarding the levy of demarcation fees that it was introduced as an experimental measure for three years—

(a) whether the Government have found the same as necessary and beneficial to assessees of such fees;

(b) what is the total number of such assessees from the very inception of such levy up to date in South Kanara;

(c) what is the total amount of fees collected from them; and

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(*d*) whether such fees have been refunded to any, and if so, how much and how many?

A.—(*a*) The scheme was introduced in January 1924, and the Board's report on it is not therefore due until after January 1927; Government have not therefore yet formed an opinion on the matter.

(*b*) to (*d*) The Government have not the particulars asked for. Instructions have been issued that a statement should be annexed to the report on the maintenance of Revenue records and registration giving particulars of the number of applications for subdivisions received in the year, number of subdivisions effected at the request of parties, fees charged and amounts paid to karnams. Information on the subject will thus be annually available in the future.

Introduction of the Land Revenue Bill.

* 1522 *Q.*—Mr. S. Muttayya Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) why the Land Revenue Bill has not yet been introduced in the Council; and

(*b*) when the Government propose to introduce the Bill?

A.—(*a*) Because the subject is still under correspondence with the Government of India.

(*b*) The answer depends on the final result of the correspondence referred to in the reply to clause (*a*).

Mr. S. Muttayya Mudaliyar:—"Will the hon. the Revenue Member be pleased to tell us at least approximately when he will be able to introduce the Bill?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks:—"I cannot possibly say, Sir. That depends as I have said in clause (*b*) of the answer on the result of the correspondence with the Government of India. It is not possible for me to foretell."

Mr. S. Muttayya Mudaliyar:—"In view of the assurances given very often in this Council to the effect that the Bill will be introduced as early as possible, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to take the necessary steps to expedite the reply from the Government of India, at least so far as it lies in his power?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks:—"Of course, Sir, we have been doing so all along."

Public Services.

Pay of unpassed men.

* 1523 *Q.*—Mr. S. Satyamurti: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that unpassed candidates who were confirmed prior to 6th August 1917 and before that period with reference to the notification appearing on page 473, Part I-B of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated

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13th August 1918, were allowed to draw their increments, by the head of the department, from the date of introduction of the time-scale of pay, i.e., from 1st March 1921;

(b) whether these clerks were subsequently not only deprived of the benefits of the time-scale of pay with reference to G.O. No. 164, Law (Education), dated 4th February 1925, but also ordered by the heads of offices to refund the amount of excess pay over the minimum of Rs. 35 already drawn by them from 1st March 1921 up to date; and

(c) the reasons for this step?

A.—(a) Yes, in some departments.

(b) & (c) Yes. Paragraph 4 of G.O. No. 164, Law (Education), dated 4th February 1925, referred to by the hon. Member, explains the reasons.

Heads of departments have, however, been informed that the Government are prepared to consider applications for waiver of recovery of overpayments by way of increments to the clerks in question.

Sriman SASIBUSHAN RATH Mahasayo:—"Sir, it is stated in the answer 'Heads of departments have, however, been informed that the Government . . . in question.' May I know if the Government intend to refund the recoveries already effected?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"That depends on the circumstances."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"May I know whether any recommendations have been received from the heads of departments?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"Yes, Sir, they are under consideration."

Civil Justice.

The emoluments of the Official Assignee in Madras.

*1524 *Q.*—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the monthly emoluments of the Official Assignee in Madras;

(b) whether the Government are considering the proposal to fix a monthly salary for him in the place of commissions; and

(c) if not, why not?

A.—(a) The Government have no information but will call for it.

(b) No.

(c) The question was considered by Government in 1924 in consultation with the High Court. As the majority of the hon. the Judges were opposed to any change in the existing practice, the Government did not consider it expedient to take further steps in the matter.

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Pay of shorthand writers in the High Court.

*1525 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the reasons why the shorthand writers in the High Court are paid only on a scale Rs. 150—10—250 a month;

(b) whether the Government have received any memorials from them for increasing their pay; and

(c) whether the Government propose to increase their pay and if not, why not?

1525 1813—

A.—(a), (b) & (c) Under clause 8 of the Letters Patent, the power of appointing ministerial officers in the High Court and of fixing their remuneration is vested in the hon. the Chief Justice.

Irrigation.

Report of the Irrigation Committee for Ceded districts and Chittoor.

*1526 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are in receipt of the final report of the Irrigation Committee (for Ceded districts and Chittoor);

(b) whether it has been considered and whether the Government have decided to take any action;

(c) how the Government propose to take steps to improve the irrigational facilities of the localities concerned; and

(d) whether the Government would be pleased to place the reports on the table of this House together with the opinions of its expert advisers and the views of the Government?

A.—(a) No; it is expected very shortly.
(b) No.
(c) This question cannot be answered until the report has been considered.
(d) The suggestion will be considered.

Railways.

Extension of the Kurichipalla railway station.

*1527 Q.—Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the extension that is proceeding of the Kurichipalla railway station in the South Indian Railway broad gauge section;

(b) whether it is a fact that the above station is intended to be the junction of the Mysore-Kanara Railway;

(c) if so, the direction of the line and the important places the line is going to touch; and

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(*d*) whether the Government have acquired or are acquiring lands for the purpose?

A.—Some land was acquired last year for permanent station arrangements at Kurichipalla. The South Indian Railway's proposal made no mention of any intention that it should be the junction of the Mysore-Kanara Railway and there is no proposal for such a Railway before Government.

II

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COUNCIL.

(*a*)

The Secretary laid on the table copies of the proceedings of the fifteenth meeting of the Finance Committee for 1925–26 held on 5th February 1926.

(*b*)

With reference to the answer to the supplementary question to question No. 1165 given at the meeting of the Council held on 17th December 1925, the Secretary laid on the table copies of the Report of the Collector on special duty for land acquisition, Cauvery (Mettur) project.

III

GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOR 1926—27.

[An Asterisk * at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Before we proceed to the next order of the day, I should like to announce to the House that under sub-rule 3 of rule 28 of the Legislative Council Rules I have fixed, according to the practice hitherto adopted, a time-limit of 15 minutes for each hon. Member's speech during that discussion. The afternoon of the third day will be at the disposal of the hon. Members of the Government to make their replies."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Sir, may I draw your attention to the letter that I addressed to you the other day in which I requested that you will kindly be pleased to move the Government to take steps to change the order of the discussion of the budget in such a manner as to bring those subjects which have not been discussed in the previous years for discussion at first now?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"That is a question for the Finance Department of the Government."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—"Sir, the budget as presented to the House shows that our repeated representations to the Government have been of no use whatever. Last year, Member after Member pressed upon the Government that they should not adopt the policy of providing for expenditure in anticipation of something turning up. Last year, the budget closed with a deficit of 90 lakhs, with the result that when the Government of India remitted Rs. 126 lakhs, as much as Rs 90 lakhs was swallowed up by this deficit. We urged upon the Government that that was bad and that they should provide for expenditure only after considering the ways and means. This sort of muddling in finance without due consideration

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to the funds available should be avoided. But this year also we find a repetition of the same thing, viz., we have budgeted for a deficit of Rs. 76 lakhs, I suppose, on the assumption that the Government of India would give us a remission of the contributions. As a result, the sum of Rs. 57 lakhs which the Government of India propose to remit to us will all be swallowed up by the deficit. Practically, neither the House, nor the hon. Ministers, nor the heads of the departments have got any means of knowing in advance exactly where they stand and what funds will be available and what proposals they will have to make for the administration of the country. They send in all sorts of proposals, good, bad and indifferent. We find that every year heads of departments send up proposals for several times the amount that is available for expenditure. A choice is made, first by the department itself, then by the Finance Department and thirdly by the Finance Committee. If on the other hand, we were in a position to know exactly what funds would be available, we would be in a position to consider each question on its merits and demerits and evolve a well-thought-out scheme. This sort of haphazard consideration and sanction should be deprecated in any system of sound finance. We have now had five years of Reformed Administration. In other provinces there is the cry of inadequate funds; we have also been raising the same cry here in this Council. But let us look at the facts. When the Reformed Government began our income according to the statement given by the courtesy of the Finance Secretary in his Memorandum in the year 1920-21, was Rs. 1,560 lakhs and our expenditure was Rs. 1,130 lakhs. In addition to this sum of Rs 1,130 lakhs we had to pay a contribution of Rs. 348 lakhs to the Government of India, thus making our expenditure Rs. 1,478 lakhs and leaving a decent balance. The revenue has risen from Rs 1,560 lakhs to Rs 1,634 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 74 lakhs in the last five years. If anything, the expenditure ought to have kept pace with the revenue; on the other hand it has increased from Rs. 1,130 lakhs to about Rs. 1,540 lakhs, deducting Rs. 170 lakhs or so that we have still to pay to the Government of India. So within these five years our expenditure has increased by about Rs 400 lakhs whereas our revenue has increased only by about Rs. 75 lakhs. Is it proper for the Government to go on increasing our expenditure at this rate of Rs. 400 lakhs of rupees for five years? The other day the hon the Finance Member was speaking about the inelastic nature of our revenues and its consequences. Is it sound finance to go on increasing our expenditure in the way in which it is being done in spite of it? It has been stated that the Government have made lots of retrenchment. Every one of us was congratulating himself that in this Presidency more retrenchment had been effected than in other presidencies The result of the retrenchment is that we have increased our expenditure by Rs. 400 lakhs.

"Let me take a few examples. Take the Forest Department. We said that the establishment was too much. A small reduction was made.

11-30 a.m. "A new policy was put forward by the Members of this Council but it was not accepted at once. When there was a change in the personnel of the Chief Conservator of Forests, the new officer accepted the policy advocated by this House and gave effect to it with the result that the forests area that is under the Forest department will be very considerably reduced in the course of the next two or three years. A very large area, in

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charge of the Forest department now will be handed over either to the Revenue Department or to the forest panchayats. Only the other day, there was a committee sitting in Coimbatore and considering this question with reference to the Coimbatore district. My idea is that something like three-fourths of the forest area will be transferred to other departments. A large area is now set apart not for the purpose of growing timber or for protective purposes but for grazing. It is not ordinarily useful for cultivation or for forest resources. All such areas are going to be released and handed over either to the forest panchayats or the Revenue Department. Consequently there will have to be a large reduction in the establishment of the Forest department. What do we find in the budget presented to us? We find a small reduction in the establishment of the District Forest department. We find on the other hand another item creeping in, a fairly decent department, the Regeneration department, and that department is increasing in its personnel. It was said that in the Forest department we have practically a mine and that we are going to have millions and millions of money from the forests. It was also said that we were not developing them properly and if that was done we would be in a position to reduce our taxes considerably in other directions. That was the argument advanced time after time. During the last three years, the Forest department was allowed to go on as they pleased. After three years of trenchant criticism in this Council, we find the expenditure and the income, so far as the Forest department is concerned, tally. There is very little difference. So far as the revenue is concerned, we find that 52·38 lakhs has been budgeted for. The revised estimate is 51·68. On the expenditure side 45·80 lakhs is shown as one item and 5·68 as another item. Taking the two figures, we get 51½ lakhs. That is to say, the revenue from forests comes to almost exactly the cost of the forest administration according to the revised estimate. We have this mine. But what is the return we get from it? Absolutely nothing. We are told that the Government is husbanding their resources very well and everything is safe in their hands. They are working this mine so as to reduce the taxes in other directions. Is it a fact? After all, what has been done?

"Within the last five years we had taxes of various sorts. With the kindness of the hon. the Finance Member we were supplied only the other day with a list of the additional taxes that were imposed since the Reforms came into force. A number of districts have had their Land Revenue resettled. As a result of that, we have a lot of additional income from land revenue. Then under Excise, duties have been increasing in various ways. Under Stamps and Court Fees, the rates were inconsiderately raised. I use the word *inconsiderately* advisedly. The result is that litigation is a source of ruination to people who have the misfortune to go to courts. When a case has to go through the stages of three courts and when the party has to pay the cost of the other side, more than half the property will be exhausted even with the old rates. The cost has now increased by 50 per cent; an additional 50 per cent is added at each stage of the three courts, and what the result will be it is unnecessary for me to describe. How do we stand with regard to that matter? Judicial administration should never be made a source of revenue in any civilized state. We find that the income under the head of judicial stamps comes to something like 150 lakhs, whereas the cost of administration of justice comes to only about 90 lakhs or so. We find that the Government is

making a large profit out of litigation in this province. That, I submit, is immoral and it ought not to be allowed. It is a matter of taxing the people who have necessity to go to courts. It is not a tax on luxuries or anything like that. It is a tax really on the misfortune of people who go to courts and it ought not to be allowed to be put higher than the rate which is absolutely necessary. It seems to me that if there is any possibility of reducing it at least to the old level, it ought to be done as early as possible. It is a matter for consideration whether the Government would not have done better if, instead of increasing the charges as they have done, they had given effect to the very necessary reduction that has been called for by almost every district in the Presidency.

"There are various ways in which any windfall like the remission in our provincial contribution ought to have been used. It was only the other day that this Council by a large majority of people sitting on the side of the hon. the Minister passed a pious resolution that prohibition ought to be reached in the course of 20 years. I thought, Sir, that 20 years meant 20 years from now. If that is the case, some provision ought to have been made in the next year's budget for it. One could have understood if the hon. the Minister or the Finance Member had told that they had no money and that therefore they could not do anything. We have got a windfall; at least a fair and decent portion of that windfall ought to have been utilized for putting down the drink evil. We do not find any provision made for the purpose of putting down this evil. This is a very serious dereliction of duty on the part of the hon. the Minister and the hon. the Finance Member if they seriously believe that they are bound by the opinion of this Council so far as this matter is concerned. It was not the view of this part of the House which would not count so long as it is in a minority. It is a proposal which was made by hon. Members who sit on the other side of the House which are supposed to form the majority party in the House and as such their view ought to have been accepted and given effect to honestly. That has not been done. Sir, on the whole I find the budget as presented to us is one about which nobody need be very enthusiastic and the way in which it has been arranged is of a very doubtful character; and the provisions that have been made are not at all satisfactory so far as those departments which require help are concerned in spite of the fact that there has been constant agitation from the very beginning. On the whole, I think the budget is a very disappointing performance."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, I wish to draw your attention and that of hon. Members of the Treasury Bench to some administrative matters with a view to avoiding additional expenditure and to have a reduction of cost. First of all, I wish to refer to the burning question of the day—the separation of the judicial and executive functions. That question has been before the country for more or less a century. Ever since Sir F. J Halliday wrote his famous minute on this question in 1838, that question has been before the country. Coming to a very much later date, 1889, Sir Richard Gorth and other eminent and influential men sent a memorial to the Secretary of State. That memorial was forwarded by the Secretary of State for consideration and disposal by the Government of India. Coming to a later date—I am referring only to the important landmarks in connexion with this question—Sir Harvey Adamson, who was also a Judge of the Burma High Court, was for giving effect to this policy when he was a

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Member of the Bengal Government. Nothing came out of that. Then, coming to a later date in 1917 when the Report of Public Services Commission was published, it was found that Sir Abdur Rahim wrote a dissenting minute in which he pleaded for the complete separation of these two departments. Nothing came out of that either. There was a great deal said about the additional expenditure that would be involved if effect were given to the proposal. The late R. C. Dutt showed more or less satisfactorily that there would practically be no additional expenditure if the scheme be put into operation. Later on, Sir William Vincent said in the Viceroy's Council that, if proposals were made by the Local Governments to the Government of India for giving effect to the separation, the Government of India would consider them. Subsequent to that a committee was appointed by this Government and that committee submitted certain proposals; certain members of that committee sent in dissenting minutes. Nothing came out of these proposals either. My hon. Friend, the hon. Law Member, from his seat in this Council stated several times that the matter was under correspondence between the Local Government and the Government of India and that action would be taken as soon as the reply of the Government of India was received. I find there was a question the other day in the House of Commons. There is practically nothing definitely stated by the Under Secretary of State. We do not know when this important question is going to be effectively tackled by the Local Government. Many hon. Members of this Council on both sides have given notices of resolutions. Owing to the exigencies of the ballot, those resolutions could not be moved. I hope my hon. Friend, the Law Member, will pay his immediate attention to this question and do something to effectively separate the executive and judicial functions.

"I wish to refer to another point in connexion with the administrative matters of the Police department.

"The other day we read in one of the local newspapers—the facts mentioned in that paper were also mentioned to me by the gentleman concerned—that a Member of this House who visited Pondicherry happened 11-45 a.m. to go to the house of Mr. Arabinda Ghose and as soon as the former came out of Arabinda Ghose's house,—I may mention here that British Police, I mean members belonging to the C.I.D., are stationed in Pondicherry,—this gentleman was asked by the Pondicherry Police to go to the office of the Commissioner of Police there to give his father's name, his mother's name and his wife's name also. I do not know what the name of his poor wife has to do with this affair. He was asked not only to give the names of these three persons, but was also asked to affix his thumb mark, his finger impressions, not only of one finger but of all the ten fingers and also of the whole palm."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Was that done by the British Police?"

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"It was done with the concurrence of the British Police, I mean with the consent of the Inspector-General of Police. Otherwise there is no need for the Pondicherry Police to take this gentleman to the Commissioner of Police there and treat him in that manner. My information is that Mr. Arabinda Ghose is no longer engaged in any political controversy."

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* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I do not want the hon. Member to take it for granted that all this was done with the concurrence of the British Police."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I did not hear the hon. the Law Member, Sir."

* The hon. Sir C P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I said I did not want it to be taken for granted, because it is not a fact that any such thing was done. with the concurrence of the British Police."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Of course, it is a matter peculiarly within the knowledge of my hon. Friend on the Treasury Bench and that of the Inspector-General of Police. Anyway, does my hon. Friend suggest that the French Police, of their own accord and without any instructions from another Government—I mean the British Government—did this? How are the French Police concerned in this matter and what do they care whether a member of this House or anybody else goes to the house of Mr. Arabinda Ghose? If my hon Friend, the Law Member, is in a position to deny that statement, I shall be very glad to welcome that and I shall apologise to him.

"With reference to this question, I may say that political exiles in France are not subjected to this treatment and political exiles from France and other countries from the continent who seek asylums in England are not treated like this. I do not want to dilate any further on this point. I merely wanted to draw the attention of this House to the iniquitous treatment that was accorded to a gentleman of this House by the French Police apparently on the initative of this Government.

"One other subject which is under the control of my hon. Friend, the Law Member, and on which I wish to say something is the case of the copyists of the Judicial department. As a matter of fact, they form a very large body and they perform a useful part of the public functions. At present they are not borne on the pensionable list. Their pay is Rs. 14½ and in addition to this they get some additional remuneration which is proportionate to the number of pages they copy. My point is that the posts of copyists also may be made pensionable. As a matter of fact, in the Judicial department amins and even peons' posts are pensionable. I believe it is not too much to ask the Government to convert copyists' posts into pensionable ones, because except with reference to pension charges, which of course will be an additional burden to the Government, they are not likely to incur any other additional expenditure. The additional remuneration which copyists get for copying documents may be calculated and the average of this sum may be fixed as the pay which they should get. I would earnestly plead that the posts of copyists in the Judicial department be made pensionable.

"One other subject I wish to refer to is in connexion with the Jail administration and that is the release of Mr. P. Narayana Menon. As a matter of fact, a memorial signed by many influential members of the taluk boards, municipal councils, taluk board presidents and the district board president of Malabar and also by many malikhana holders who have no inclination for political activity at all was sent to Government. The last mentioned gentlemen avoid taking part in such questions as far as possible. They receive pensions from Government and even they have signed this

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memorial. My hon. Friend, Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar, when he occupied a less embarrassing position and other prominent citizens of Madras, such as Diwan Bahadur T. Rangachariyar, Mr. Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar and others, also signsd this memorial praying that Mr. P. Narayana Menon might be released as an act of mercy. A motion was tabled on the floor of this House and it was passed. No division was taken and it was passed *nem con.* Latterly my hon. Friend, the Law Member, must have been receiving a large number of telegrams and letters from the presidents of several public meetings held in different parts of the Presidency praying for the release of Mr. P. Narayana Menon. The other day I found in one of the daily newspapers a report of four European gentlemen who have no axe to grind having sent a petition to the Government praying for the release of Mr. Narayana Menon. I hope my hon. Friend, the Law Member, and His Excellency will sympathetically consider these various points and release Mr. Narayana Menon.

" With reference to the Irrigation Bill that was introduced in this House some time back, it was pointed out by my hon. Friend, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar, that the one reason why that Bill was introduced was that unless that Bill was passed the Government of India was not likely to advance money to this Government for the construction of the Mettur project and that therefore he wanted the Bill to be passed immediately. Now, we know that with the sanction of the Secretary of State very large sums have been spent and are proposed to be spent on the Mettur project. In the current year some 7½ lakhs have been spent and in the next year some 95 lakhs are estimated to be spent. A sum of 4 lakhs of rupees is proposed to be spent on the establishment for the construction and other works connected with the Mettur project. I wish to know how it has been possible for my hon. Friend to spend large sums of money on the Mettur project without any irrigation law.

" I wish to draw the attention of the hon. Minister for Education to some points in connexion with the departments in his charge. The other day it was elicited by questions and answers that girl pupils in the Queen Mary's College when they failed twice in the junior intermediate class were not allowed to continue in that class for a third year. The answer of my hon. Friend, the Education Minister, was that unless they changed their groups they could not continue for a third year. The change of a group for any student is particularly hard and I think in the case of girls it is harder still. As far as I can see and as far as I was able to gauge the sense of the House, there is no reason why girl pupils should not be allowed to continue for a third year. I hope the hon. the Minister will alter the rules so as to allow girl pupils in Queen Mary's College to continue for a third year also in junior intermediate class without their being compelled either to leave the college or change their group.

" I wish to refer to only one other point. Last year when the second-grade college of Palghat was raised to a first grade college it was affiliated in three groups, namely, History, Philosophy and Languages. As a matter of fact—I speak from memory—it was mentioned in the Government Order that was issued at that time that the institution would be affiliated in Mathematics also in the ensuing year. I think it will not be very difficult for the Government to affiliate the college in Mathematics also because it will not be

very expensive and I hope the hon. the Minister will do so in the coming year. I find from the budget estimate that a sum of one crore and 38 lakhs has been provided for the coming year in D.P.W. For Mathematics group structural alterations are not very large and they can be effected at a very small cost. I do hope that, before the college reopens in July, my hon. Friend, the Minister for Education, will seriously consider the promise which he made in the Government Order that was issued last year, and affiliate this college in Mathematics group also."

* Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—"Sir, within the time prescribed which it is our duty to loyally and respectfully carry out, it is not possible in the very nature of things to subject the budget to any lengthy or detailed criticism. Our criticisms must necessarily be of a general nature except when we attempt to turn our searchlights with a view to focus the attention of the House on some defects here and some weak or dark spots there in certain branches of administration.

" The hon. the Finance Member in introducing his budget has been frank enough to state as follows :—' I have not been able to place before this Council a more attractive picture of our financial position '. If by this is meant that the picture that is presented is attractive enough, I must in all humility lodge my caveat against it. It is not at all attractive and he will excuse me and the House will also excuse me if I characterise this budget as unattractive and pre-eminently unsatisfactory. But at the same time when we come to the next line, he says "it is however unnecessary as yet to take a sombre view of our prospects ". The House will mark the words ' as yet'. This cautious indication does not preclude the possibility of our being compelled to take a gloomy and sombre view of the prospects. If the budget presented by the then Finance Member, the hon. Mr. Graham, was one framed on a conservative basis, I fancy that this budget of Mr. Moir proceeds on an optimistic basis buttressed by hopes, the fruition and the realization of which can only be supposed to lie in the womb of the future which nobody can predict with certainty.

12 noon. " And we hope and trust that his anticipations will be fulfilled. Or it may be that he has drawn his inspiration for his optimistic views from the Government astrologer for whom a remuneration of Rs. 100 has been provided in the budget. Whatever that may be, I am very sorry to note that the ensuing year also is to close with a deficit of about 76 lakhs. When Mr. Graham introduced his budget last year, it revealed a deficit of 88·03 lakhs. But with the remission of 126 lakhs of our contribution combined with some minor modifications promised, we were enabled or rather we expected that the deficit might be converted to a surplus of 29·58 lakhs. But what are the actuals now ? Instead of an anticipated surplus budget of 29·58 lakhs, we are to have only 6·19 lakhs, and how is that figure arrived at ? That is the next question to which I propose to address myself. This modest sum of 6·19 lakhs was reached by the saving of expenditure on two nation-building departments, namely, 3·51 lakhs under Education and 1·52 lakhs under Industry. In other words, the two nation-building departments for which we have been clamouring for more money have been starved to the extent of five lakhs of rupees. Whose fault it is I am not able to say. But the Ministers who are responsible for allowing this diversion are bound to offer an explanation to the House as to why they found

themselves unable to spend even this small allotment. Year in and year out we have been asking for more allotments under several heads, namely, education, medical relief, industry, sanitation, roads and communications. Year after year we find the departments not utilizing to the fullest advantage the funds allotted. Is it due to any incompetency on their part, inefficiency or unwillingness or a desire on their part to surrender to more pressing claims made by the Reserved half. The House may also remember that the Transferred half did not spend the whole allotment provided for in 1924-25 and that was the reason why, in the budget for 1925-26, they came in for a good deal of adverse criticism. It was thought, it was felt and it was honestly believed that the Ministers would have profited themselves by that criticism. But that was not to be. For we find the Ministers surrendering, wittingly or unwittingly, a sum of five lakhs under two heads which I have indicated already, namely, Education and Industry. It has been said—and I also share that feeling—in responsible quarters that every year we meet in March, spend a lot of time in making speeches, in hearing speeches, in giving a lot of trouble to the Treasury Benches, doing nothing, achieving nothing, all along allowing the Government to have their own way of doing things in their merry-go-round fashion. That remark seems to be just, and it appears to be mainly provoked by the attitude of the Government for the past one year. Let me illustrate myself by just one instance. The House may perhaps remember that last time as many as 1,200 motions on the voting of demands were tabled. More than 1,000 were guillotined for want of time and out of the 200 that came up for discussion about a hundred were not moved, and out of the balance of 100, only six or seven were carried by a majority, while the rest were lost. But what has been the attitude of the Government in respect of this small number of half a dozen motions that were carried in Council ? The Government restored them. We succeeded in carrying a motion to omit the allotment for the Settlement branch of the Board of Revenue and for the post of Official Referee. The first was completely restored, while the second was certified in the first instance for six months and later for the other six months as well. Then again, we brought in a motion for a cut under Judges and Registrar of the High Court as a protest against the appointment of temporary judges. That motion for reduction was carried, but it was turned down by His Excellency in exercise of his certifying powers. Similary, we brought a motion for a reduction under Jails and Special Jails, and with no better result. Therefore it is that people have begun to think that every year we meet here and enact a huge farce without being able to do anything in the matter. That is the general feeling and I am only echoing it, that the Government have their own way of doing things unaffected by the criticisms that we are passing and uninfluenced by any suggestion that we may give on the floor of this House.

" What has been then the attitude of the Government in respect of the Land Revenue Bill. The House will remember that we turned down the Bill that was introduced in this Council by the hon. Sir Arthur Knapp two years ago. And every time we meet here we have been pressing upon the attention of the Government to know exactly where the Government stands, what its attitude is with respect to the reintroduction of the Land Revenue Bill which was turned down by us as it was found to contain some provisions

of an absolutely reactionary and unsatisfactory character. Two years have since rolled by. The joint Parliamentary Committee made its recommendations seven years ago. Seven precious years have rolled by and no serious attempt seems to have been made in the direction. And in answer to a question put on the subject this morning, it has been stated that the matter is still under correspondence Whether it will be consigned to the limbo of oblivion or whether it is likely to come in the near or immediate future, nobody on this side of the House is able to say. It seems to me that the Government have absolutely no justification in withholding the Bill, not only that, but in carrying on their settlement operations under executive orders and instructions. And I understand that quite recently Anantapur is proposed to be brought within the purview of the settlement operations. I do not accuse the Government of bad faith in this matter, but I am not convinced of their good faith.

" Again, so far as the Irrigation Bill is concerned, much time and labour have been spent by the House and the Bill has been recommitted to it. All these show a certain kind of mentality on the part of the Government and the people are inclined to think that the outlook of the Madras Government is becoming more and more narrow and that there should be not only a change in the angle of vision but a change of heart so that the Government may be really responsible to the people. And it seems to me, Sir, that so far as the bureaucratic machine is concerned, it is wanting in that element of responsibility. The hon. the Finance Member at the very outset of his speech invited us to attend the final obsequies of the last completed financial year. But before we can seriously think of participating in the obsequies of the last completed financial year, we have been overtaken with the obsequies of the present year, and I do not know how many such obsequies are in store for us. Probably the hon. the Finance Member has reminded us of the annual obsequies of 1924–25 ; and we are called upon to perform the monthly obsequies for 1925–26 and probably in 1926–27 we may be called upon to participate in the obsequies for that completed year. But let that pass. Going through the budget, I find that small allotments have been made so far as the nation-building departments are concerned. Although the expenditure for which commitments have been made by the Government exceed the revenue by 3·91 lakhs, new schemes involving an expenditure of 72·55 lakhs for the coming year have been approved. Out of this amount, only 33 lakhs go to the developmental departments. I cannot understand why the whole of the 57 lakhs which we have received as the second instalment of remission has not been earmarked for the development of the nation-building departments. It is true that elementary education gets something and I think the idea is to have more schools. But I am not at all satisfied with that for substantial steps must be taken in the direction so that, within a measurable period of time, the huge monster of illiteracy might be turned out. Again, so far as co-operative credit is concerned, there is an allotment of some subsidy only to two district federations, that of South Kanara and Chingleput. I know there are other federations in other districts which stand in need of similar allotments and I fail to see why provision has not been made.

" Passing on to Local Self-Government, I do not think that the hon. the Minister can boast of any achievement worth the name. The allotments for roads and communications, trunk roads and so on, medical relief, bridges, etc.,

are hardly sufficient. But care has been taken by that department to consolidate their forces by appointing their own men for party purposes and by nominating their own candidates to serve on the local boards and municipalities as the case may be. I do not want to advert to the matter at all for that represents the most painful and sorry side of the achievements of the hon. Minister who though responsible for the working of the Act has cast to the winds the beneficent provisions of the Act by nominating certain persons of his party in utter disregard of the provisions contained in section 9 of the Local Boards Act and 11 (5) of the City Municipal Act. Again, it is stated in the speech of the Finance Member with reference to this department that the local bodies have been lax in the matter of collection to the extent of not being able to collect 12 per cent of the total receipts And I utterly sympathise with the hon. the Finance Member when he says:

'I sincerely trust that his (meaning the hon. the Raja of Panagal's) effort will result in a distinct improvement: for our provincial finances are sufficiently strained to meet the legitimate requirements of local bodies without being called upon to shoulder a further burden arising out of their remissness or inefficiency.'

"I would ask the hon. Raja of Panagal one of these days to undertake a tour, expensive or not, and to make up his mind to get into the interior and satisfy himself about the sanitation and the condition of the roads in the several parts of the country. So far as his tours are concerned, they are confined to the headquarters of taluks or districts and it is no wonder that the hon. Minister is not in a position to know the wretched condition of some of the roads in the interior. I hope and trust that he will press for more liberal provision under this head.

"As I began, I shall end, Sir, by characterising this budget as by no means attractive but as a most gloomy and disappointing budget."

*Mr. C. Gopala Menon:—"I shall first of all congratulate the hon the Finance Member who has presided over the Finance Department for the excellent and lucid budget which he has presented. He has presented it in such a way as to enable us to grasp the details of the budget very readily. But the only unfortunate part of it is that it is a deficit budget. At the same time, however, it is a consolation to us to know that the current year shows a surplus to the tune of 6·19 lakhs. The anticipated deficit of the current year is 19·46 lakhs and the Finance Member proposes to place this deficit to the loan account. It will be excusable if the revenue deficits are adjusted to the revenue account as a temporary measure. I venture to suggest that these revenue deficits should be written to the revenues of the next or succeeding year or must be met by cuts.

"There is another small matter to which the hon. the Finance Member has made reference on page 2 of his Budget speech, and that is the withdrawal of the customs duty by the Government of India for stores imported into this Presidency. In this case it is only a small amount, about 2 lakhs but it is not so much the amount but the principle involved in it that I wish to emphasise. It is most unfair that the Central Government should by adjustment take away that item because they are giving us a remission of our provincial contributions. It only means that the Central Government is taking away from us with one hand what they are giving us with the other. 12-15 p.m.

"I would be failing in my duty if I do not make mention of the progressive policy which the hon. the Finance Member is taking up in the first year

of his regime. I would refer to the sum that he has allotted 72·55 lakhs, that is 11·33 lakhs recurring and 61·22 lakhs non-recurring. Of course 61·22 lakhs non-recurring expenditure may be much to spare out of the revenues of the year. But that only shows that in the first year of his regime he has allotted money for the most urgent and important needs of this Presidency. And he justifies his action on two grounds. He says: it would be seriously adverse to the political and administrative advance of the province if in the wide field of our activities progress and improvement came by jerks and spasms, years or periods of stagnation being followed by years or periods of feverish activity ' · · · In the first place we are entitled to look forward to the disappearance of considerable expenditure of an abnormal and non-recurring character, and in the second place we are not forgetful of the fact that we still had expectations of a remission in the contributions being received from the Government of India. In this connexion I wish to say one or two words about the remission of provincial contribution. Since the Reforms, in spite of retrenchment, in spite of additional taxation, in spite of surpluses with the Government of India, the Central Government have not kept up their promised goal of the abolition of the provincial contributions. It only amounts to this, that the expanding needs of the provinces in what may be called the nation-building departments still remain unfulfilled. It was the other day in the Bombay Legislative Council, His Excellency Sir Leslie Wilson told that House that unless the Viceroy and the Secretary of State think it fit to revise the Meston award, His Excellency's Government would not be able to carry out their legitimate obligations to the people of that Presidency. I hope and trust that the hon. the Finance Minister who put up such a sturdy fight in the Legislative Assembly on behalf of this Presidency while he was a Member of that Council, will try his level best that the contribution is abolished at the earliest possible date. In that task he will have the co-operation of the sister Presidencies.

"There is another important budget matter to which I wish to make reference. I mean the provision of 10 lakhs made for the Pykara Hydro-Electric scheme. If there is anything that will perpetuate the regime of the hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar as a Member of the Government, it will be the inauguration of the water power resources of this Presidency. I am referring to the Pykara scheme as well as the great Mettur project. Hon. Members will be aware of the keen discussion that took place in this House during the last Budget debate in the course of which the hon. Law Member told us that he would give us an opportunity of discussing the report about that scheme. But that opportunity was not afforded to this House, probably the whole scheme would not have taken definite shape. Whatever that may be, the hon. the Law Member assured us in that debate in this House as well as in the public utterances of his both at Trichinopoly and when he presided the other day at the Prize Distribution ceremony of the Engineering College at Guindy, about the manifold uses of cheap electricity. There is no doubt that cheap generating power for industrial purposes in this Presidency will be both a boon and a blessing. We can develop many industries by having cheap electricity. I may mention one or two instances, viz., aluminium and soap industry. We have got aluminium ores in many places in this Presidency, and cheap electricity is necessary in heating the furnaces to a high degree. I may also give another instance, and that is soap. The chief ingredient required for producing

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soap is caustic soda, and caustic soda is made by passing electricity through salt water. But the question is what are we going to be asked to pay for the electricity. Mr. Forbes' report says that we shall have to pay 0·8 anna which comes to over 9 pies per unit. That is certainly high as compared with the rates obtaining in other countries for cheap electricity. In England owing to the smallness and flatness of the country there is no water power, and they are making electricity out of coal, but still they are paying for their electricity for industrial purposes at 0·3 penny to 0·9 penny per unit. I happened to read the other day a report of a speech delivered by the Chairman of the Iron and Steel Industry, in an English journal, in which he said that in Scandinavia hydro-electricity can be obtained for industrial purposes at a rate below £2 per kilo-wat year. In America at 15 dollars to 20 dollars per kilo-wat year and in England at £8 for a kilo-wat year. When reduced to Indian money it will come to below Rs. 30 in Scandinavia, Rs. 35 to 45 in America and Rs. 120 in England per kilo-wat year; exchange at 1*s.* 4*d.* per rupee. The rate we have to pay when reduced to unit would be less than one pie in Scandinavia, over a pie in America and about 3 pies in England and in Madras 9 pies per unit. I place these figures before the hon. the Law Member so that he may scrutinise them and see what should be done in the matter.

"Turning now to the Transferred Departments, I find that the increase of one per cent has not been allotted to the nation-building departments. Is that consistent with the assurance given by the hon. Sir Charles Todhunter in 1924-25? He said

'as has been recognized, once we secure a remission of contributions, the Transferred Departments are to have the first claim, and the claim of the Transferred Departments would eat up any money that there is to spare several times over.'

"I find that the total allotment made to the Transferred Departments amount to only 526·84 lakhs; on the other hand, it ought to be 550·93 lakhs under the promise made by Sir Charles Todhunter. Coming to the Agricultural Department, I find that only Rs. 18,500 is allowed for the collection of agricultural statistics in the Presidency. I consider this is a very small amount in view of the importance of the work involved. I find that only Rs. 500 has been allotted for exhibitions and fairs. Considering the vast sums spent for fairs and exhibitions in other countries, I consider this a very paltry sum. I hope that the hon. the Development Minister will do his best to increase this amount. It is not clear to me what happens to the Agricultural Research Institute as there appears to be a reduction of Rs. 1,25,000. With regard to pioneering industries, what I wish to bring to the notice of the hon. the Development Minister is that the industries have not helped the people in the country to any extent They have not in any way enabled the people to start small industries and induce them to take up the manufacture of the necessary articles. I find that an allotment of 14·64 lakhs has been provided for in the budget for education. This is certainly a welcome sign. An educational policy which aims at the improvement of the condition of the people must be a primary concern of Government and one of the first charges on its revenue. But what do we find here? We find that 2 lakhs are provided for primary education, and that private aided institutions are being replaced by institutions of local bodies. The other day, the *Madras Mail* aptly remarked 'it is so much more politically advantageous to boast of local board schools than those managed by aided agency.

Aided education is so much cheaper than official education that only a wilfully blind tax-payer would fail to see where his interests are best served.' I am speaking with regard to the lethargy shown by the hon. the Education Minister in not encouraging aided institutions. I wish to quote a paragraph from the utterances of a great American Educational Minister in this connexion:—

'Provided that the required standard of educational efficiency is reached, aided institutions should be regarded as filling a place in the scheme of education as important as that of the schools conducted by Government departments. The utilization of these voluntary agencies economises the revenues available for educational purposes'.

"With regard to Public Health, I find there is an increase of Rs. 80,000 for establishments whereas the grant for public health purposes has been reduced by 5 lakhs. The present figure for grants for Public Health is 21·7 lakhs which means a decrease of 19 lakhs since 1923-24. I leave it to the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government to see whether my figures are right. There are several other points to which I wish to refer, but my time is up, and, I have to resume my seat."

* Khan Bahadur HAJI ABDUL-LA HAJI QASIM SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, it is, indeed, a matter for regret that this year also a deficit budget has been presented. Last year we hoped that the reduction in our contribution to the Central Government would greatly relieve us from our pecuniary embarrassment. But the reduction was so far below our expectation and to-day we are faced with a huge deficit. The hon. the Finance Member must have made honest efforts and put forth all his energy to present a Square Budget this year. But I think in the face of hard facts and circumstances beyond his control, he has failed in his attempts. I heartily sympathise with him and wish him better luck next time. But I feel constrained to impress one thing upon Government and it is this. However wise the Government might be, it seems to me that in many cases of retrenchment it is following the policy of 'penny wise, pound foolish.' In its eagerness to effect retrenchment the Government sends away many low-paid poor clerks, peons and constables. But at the other end in the interests of the supposed efficiency of Government a number of highly-paid posts is increased. The result is that the administration becomes top-heavy and the object is far from being achieved. Some time ago the question of retrenchment was so persistently talked of and so many ways and means devised to carry it out that, in every nook and corner of villages even, let alone cities and towns, the main topic of gossip was retrenchment. After so much has been said and done we are not better off to-day. Faced with huge deficits every year, we are drifting. In the matter of retrenchment let me make a suggestion with reference to the districts of South Kanara and Malabar. The same suggestion may be considered with reference to other districts also where the conditions are similar. Formerly Udipi and Karkal were one taluk under one Tahsildar. But only about ten years ago the two were separated into different taluks with additional establishments, and thus the number of taluks now is six. What I would suggest now as a measure of retrenchment is this. Udipi and Karkal may again be rejoined as one taluk. The northernmost taluk of Coondapur may, if necessary, be joined to the contiguous district of North Kanara under the Bombay Government. Under this redistribution there will be left only four taluks in South Kanara. Even supposing that for some reason or other Coondapur cannot be joined

to North Kanara there will be left only five taluks as it was before the separation of Udipi and Karkal. And to these if the two northernmost taluks out of the nine taluks of Malabar are added, there will be seven taluks in South Kanara and the same number in Malabar also. Under such an arrangement there will not be much additional expenditure in South Kanara; but on the other hand there will be a distinct saving for Government in the administration of Malabar, and moreover the tenancy question regarding the two separated taluks of Malabar will, I think, be simplified.

" Let me take this opportunity to speak about some important matters touching my district and my community. It is understood that Government wants to abolish some of the police stations in the village parts of South Kanara and to reduce the number of constables. If Government wants to do this merely for retrenchment I am afraid that this step is not in the right direction. Let me here point out that in this year's Budget estimate Government have provided an increased expenditure of Rs. 4,13,000 for police administration instead of showing a retrenchment. No doubt the police administration is too costly and expenditure far exceeds the income. But this branch of Government has to justify its existence by effectively protecting the life, liberty and property of the subjects and by maintaining law and order. The very existence of village stations is a source of great safety and security to the people living in scattered houses, far from one another and not in groups as in other districts. I do not know what appreciable economy could be effected by abolishing these small police stations. Economy must be carried out in some other quarter, not this. Heinous crimes like murder and dacoity are now and then reported from these village parts. When the stations are removed, marauders and bad characters will have a free hand to do as they like with impunity. The poor ignorant villagers will be put in constant fear and danger of being molested when the check is removed. Crimes will remain undetected as the police, being away from the scene, cannot take prompt action. Offenders cannot be brought to book speedily and without unnecessary trouble and expense. Sir, I would, therefore, strongly urge upon Government to retain police stations in the village parts. 12-30 p.m.

" Sir, coming to the matter touching my own community I have only to repeat what men of great experience and mature judgment like the late lamented Gopal Krishna Gokhale and at present Sir Abdur Rahim have persistently given expression to. At the present imperfect stage of development of the Muslim community, communal representation, both in Government services and on local bodies is still essential to safeguard its interests. At the present stage if the Mussalmans are not provided with the proper safeguards necessary to facilitate full growth and advancement, they are sure to be handicapped and their place will be nowhere. Let me not be misunderstood when I say all this. I assure you, Sir, that I can never be opposed to national aspirations and national advancement. On the other hand, I will do all that lies in my power to promote progress on national lines. But, Sir, it is to be clearly remembered that the car of progress cannot proceed an inch on one wheel alone, unless the other wheel is sufficiently strengthened by providing proper safeguards for its free rotation. Unless the Mussalmans are also given opportunities to have their proper share in the scheme of Government, I doubt, Sir, whether there can

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be real progress at all. It is only when the Mussalmans are fully equipped and qualified, and not before, that they will be able to take their firm stand by the side of their sister community in all efforts for national evolution. In this connexion I would like to make a suggestion which I commend to the serious consideration both of Government and this Council. Seats should be reserved for Mussalmans both in Government services and on local bodies in proportion to the percentage of Muslim population in the different areas. Sir, with regard to the Government services, I would here draw the attention of the Government to the letter dated the 21st November 1925 with reference to the resolution of the Muhammadan Educational Association of Southern India forwarded by its Honorary Secretary to the Chief Secretary to the Government. The resolution, which is a united demand of the Muslims of Southern India, urges upon Government the necessity for fixing the number of posts at 20 per cent. Sir, it is provided by the Reforms Act that of the elected Members of the Legislative Council from every district one must be a non-Brahman. On some such principle the representation of Mussalmans on local bodies should be ensured. For instance, in a district where the proportion of the Mussalmans is 1 to 2 as in Malabar, it should be provided that the president of the district board, every third time, should be a Mussalman, whether elected or nominated. I take this opportunity to respectfully urge on Government to appoint a committee to consider my suggestion and to formulate a scheme by working out the details with regard to particular areas.

"Sir, it is unnecessary for me here to repeat again that the most important matter that touches the welfare of my community is education. No one can deny that it is the panacea for all evils. It is the crying need of Mussalmans even to-day; but poverty is a stumbling block in their way. And now opportunities and facilities even are being denied to them. Time and again have I cried myself hoarse about this problem but in vain, and my cry is in the wilderness. The problem of Muslim education is being deliberately shelved and the tendency is clearly to discourage the establishment of Hindustani schools. Out of hundreds of Board Elementary schools opened during the last two years with Government subsidy, not one has been allotted for Mussalmans in South Kanara in spite of my repeated requests to the hon. the Minister for Education. I think the other districts also have shared the same fate. Sir, it is, no doubt, a good thing that educational matters have been entrusted to the local self-governing bodies. But there Sir, the national zeal, coupled with the inadequate representation of Mussalmans, is going so far that the legitimate claim of Mussalmans to have separate schools for their proper education is being opposed. A Swarajist member of the taluk board in my taluk has gone even to the length of recording his dissenting note for the opening of new Hindustani schools. The plea is put forward that communalism retards the progress of the country. I quite appreciate the principle and the noble sentiment behind it. I have already said that I am not opposed to national aspirations. But our zeal in this direction should not blind us to the just and legitimate claims of others, claims that are essential to their well-being; and it is to be borne in mind that national progress must be broad-based on the well being of all concerned. The present tendencies, Sir, are leading to an alarming situation and Mussalmans, with any degree of consciousness of responsibility, cannot shut their eyes to it. We Muslim Members must strain every nerve to save the situation and I appeal to all the other Members for support. At the same time I

beg to impress upon Government the necessity for making Muslim Education a matter of State concern and take over its control from the local bodies, if nothing else could be done. Sir, it is deplorable that Government have provided only a paltry sum of Rs. 10,003 in aid of Mappilla cottage industries. It is simply ridiculous to suppose that such a small sum could in any way encourage the industries. Government must be more liberal in this matter.

"Another thing, Sir, which I wish to mention is the contemplated amendment of the Local Boards and District Municipalities Acts. As some of the sections are rather vague it is necessary that these Acts should be amended. But these amendments should be in the right direction so as to give more powers to the people and not to take retrograde steps by withdrawing the powers already vested in the local bodies. There may be some local bodies whose administration may not be efficient. But that does not mean that the whole local self-government is inefficient. Sir, Government must trust the people, and there must be mutual co-operation. Are not local self-governing bodies a part and parcel of the Government? The Government officers are, therefore, in fairness, required to assist the local bodies in their administration. The local boards have no executive staff of their own. Nor their slender resources permit of the entertainment of such staff. They, therefore, stand in need of help in all matters from the Government officers. If the object of Government is to make local self-government a success, it is incumbent on Government to see that its officers do co-operate with the local boards. I am afraid there may be some officers who think that they have nothing to do with local bodies. Hence I humbly request Government to issue special instructions to their officers to co-operate with local boards so as to make their administration as efficient as possible.

"Sir, one more thing I wish to say before I conclude. I hear that there is a vague proposal to constitute Udipi into a municipality against the wishes of the people. From my experience as a resident of this small town and also as president of the taluk board till lately I am of opinion that a municipality for Udipi at present is not at all necessary. So far as I know the hon. the Chief Minister has been kind enough not to force a municipality up till now against the wishes of the people. So I hope and trust that the popular Minister will not take such an undesirable step in this case also."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chettiyar :—"I confess I am unable to deal with the budget figures for the simple reason that they are too voluminous to follow. Even if I should have devoted some more time, without the help of the officials concerned, it may not be possible for us to suggest any effective cuts unless we are informed about the manner in which the stores are purchased by the Government. The establishment is duplicated or tribled in places where they are unnecessary and unless more detailed estimates of the works they propose to take next year are made available to the members of this Council we cannot do much in that direction. I shall not therefore attempt any criticism on the figures of the budget. I am merely amazed at the unquenchable thirst of the Government of Madras in having been able to swallow not only the 125 lakhs which were remitted to us by the Government of India last year but also the 57 lakhs which are promised this year. Sir, my enthusiasm to get the remission of the provincial contribution is slowly cooling down in view of the fact that not even

a small portion of this huge sum of money is devoted or spent to the nation-building departments as they were originally promised. Of course, the explanation given by Government is very plausible in that there was no undertaking on the part of the Government of India or the Government of Madras that the whole amount would be utilized for the Transferred Departments though in the speeches made by responsible men there was absolutely no doubt as to their intentions. It was contended that the redemption of debt was also a nation-building affair and that this debt ought to be redeemed before money could be expended upon other departments. I daresay even if the Government of India should be so disposed to remit the whole contribution the Government of Madras will be able to swallow the whole amount so much so that we shall have nothing left to the nation-building departments. It is up to the Ministers to put up a fight. There is absolutely nothing done in spite of the protestations made by the Government of Madras. I shall only place a few complaints of grievances so that the hon. Members concerned may give us the assurance that they will be looked into and rectified if possible. I propose to deal with the matters in the same order in which they are seated.

"Sir, in spite of the fact that the Legislative Council has passed a motion to cut away the allotment for the provision of temporary Judges in the High Court they are still being retained temporarily. I wish they would rather be made permanent instead of making this temporary prolongation. It is demoralising; this temporary retention is demoralising. But in the communique which the Government of Madras have issued recently they seem to reply upon the opinion of the hon. Judges of the High Court that the retention of these temporary Judges is necessary. It seems to me rather indelicate that the Hon'ble Judges should be asked to express an opinion whether two of their Colleagues are necessary or not. Anybody will be reluctant to say that two of their number are supernumerary. It is the
12-45 p.m. business of the Government to find out if the work has so considerably increased as to make it necessary for the retention of these two additional Judges. If they are convinced and if they are able to convince the public and the Council, by all means let recommendations go forth that they should be made permanent instead of continuing them on a temporary basis.

"Sir, from the High Court I come down to the Cooum. (Laughter.) Sir, the present condition of the Cooum is most deplorable. Our sense of smell is so often outraged by the most foul-smelling odours from the Cooum, and the Government of Madras are solely responsible for making the Cooum as it is to-day. (Laughter.) They are letting out the sewage of the General Hospital, the Penitentiary and other public buildings on the banks of the Cooum flow into this river and making the Cooum most foul-smelling. (The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar: 'What about Chintadripet?') The hon. the Law Member may turn round and say that the Corporation also is partly responsible for the present condition of the Cooum. But if the Government will give us an assurance that they will not discharge into the Cooum all that sewage, we shall at once stop any flow of sewage from Chintadripet into the Cooum. As a matter of fact, the work of sewering that area has already been taken in hand by the Corporation and by the end of this year we promise that the Corporation shall not be a party to making the Cooum insanitary. But let me have the assurance of the Government of Madras that they shall improve

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the condition of the Cooum. There have been several schemes for the improvement of the Cooum, and one scheme which seems to have found favour with the Government of Madras costs nearly Rs. 3 lakhs, and they have asked the Corporation as to the amount which the Corporation would be able to contribute for this work. I fail to see why the Corporation should be asked to pay any moiety of this cost. The Government are bound to assist in keeping the Cooum sanitary. As a matter of fact, the Government of Madras is escaping being booked by the Corporation for letting the sewage of their public buildings into the Cooum, on account of the section in the Municipal Act, which makes them immune from being prosecuted by the Corporation.

"I then bring forward to the notice of the Government the condition of the Government cheris in the City of Madras. There is any amount of profession of sympathy on the part of the Government towards the depressed classes. I thought this subject was in the province of the hon. the Law Member, but I see it is in charge of the hon. the Home Member. The state of some of the Government cheris affords a very good excuse for the owners of private cheris to neglect the condition of these localities. I shall be only glad if the hon. the Home Member will try to improve the condition of what is called the 'Magazine cheri,' which affords the best illustration of the most neglected condition of these cheris, and where perhaps for the last one hundred years, I dare say, not even a piece of metal could have found room. I beg the hon. the Home Member to pay more attention to the most distressing condition of these cheris and improve them, so that we might go to the owners of private cheris and compel them to improve the condition of the places of which they are owners. (Mr. R. Veerian : 'Hear, hear.') I am glad my hon. Friend Mr. Veerian agrees with my proposal in this direction. I hope, Sir, you will always bear in mind that if anybody neglects the condition of the depressed classes it is more the Government than anybody else.

" And for the hon. Member Mr. Marjoribanks, I have nothing. (Laughter.) I shall pass on to the hon. the Home Member on one other point. On one or two occasions I brought to his notice and to the notice of this House the condition of the Rangoon passengers, especially the third-class passengers. Sir, in various newspapers, the grievances of these passengers have found place. The conditions under which they are made to travel are beyond any description, and even in the matter of disembarkation from the ships in the Madras port, I am told that they are made to walk up nearly a distance of a mile and a half before they can find a jutka or a rickshaw to take them home. A slight alteration in the disinfection shed in the Port Trust compound will greatly remove this one inconvenience at any rate. As for the conditions under which these passengers are made to travel on board the ship, a more detailed statement will be submitted to the hon. the Home Member if he will promise to make an enquiry and see that these things are rectified.

" Sir, on one matter on which there is unanimity of opinion amongst all sections of this House is the demand for the release of Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon. Why I became so interested in his case is the fact that the Rev. Mr. Hogg of the Christian College, who was for some time the missionary giving some lectures to this gentleman in the Penitentiary, came of his own accord to me and told me that Mr. Narayana Menon's case should engage

the attention of the Government, and he requested me to move a resolution regarding his release. I felt somewhat surprised that that gentleman should have interfered in this matter, because it is very rarely that missionary gentlemen take any interest in political detenues at any rate. I therefore had no hesitation in coming to the conclusion that Mr. Narayana Menon must be an exemplary person inasmuch as he was able to elicit the sympathy of Rev. Mr. Hogg in the matter of the demand for his release. It seems to me strange that the Government of Madras should be so hard-hearted, so much relying upon their prestige, that they refuse to heed to the request of the Legislative Council and also of other public men in the matter of his release. After all, what could one single Narayana Menon do, if he was released? Sir, more revolutionary criminals, more hardened assassins and murderers have been released by the clemency exercised by the Government. Would it be too much for us to ask the Madras Government to be sympathetic towards this young man of parts, who either on account of youthful enthusiasm or political misguidedness had become a criminal in the eyes of the Government? Would it be too much to ask if this Government would sympathetically view his case and release him forthwith? I am sure the Madras Government is strong enough to combat the intrigues, if any, that might be again renewed by Mr. Narayana Menon in case he is released. By demanding his release, we do not impugn in any way the right disposal of his case by the Madras High Court. We do not mean to say that the High Court committed a wrong in sentencing him, but we only pray for mercy, and ask that this young man should be released.

"Sir, I now turn my attention to the Industries department. As has been observed by my hon. Friend, Mr. Gopala Menon, I must say, Sir, that the country on the whole is not benefited by this department to any extent. But one thing that I wish to particularly bring to the notice of the hon. the Minister is the amount of money spent upon what are called industrial schools. These industrial schools are more or less managed and maintained by missionary bodies. I am not quite sure if the subventions paid by the Madras Government are more for the maintenance of the inmates than for the increase either in the enlightenment or in the education of the pupils themselves. Sir, let me have a word or two with regard to the hon. the Minister for Education and the Minister for Local Self-Government before I close.

"Sir, I know it is quite futile to offer any remarks with regard to the departments in charge of the hon. Sir A. P. Patro. For the last six years, elementary and secondary education are on the same stage they were when he took charge of the department. (The hon. Sir A. P. Patro : 'Question'.) As a matter of fact, in regard to elementary education, it is desirable that the agency which controls elementary education should be in one hand, either the local bodies or the district educational councils. There is no use of placing these schools under dual control and making the work of local bodies quite impossible in this direction. With regard to secondary education, the boards which he had constituted are mere farce. They do not serve any purpose. It is said that they have got the power of convening meetings once in a quarter and discussing certain recommendations which will be placed before them by the district educational officer. It was promised that the curricula of studies and the Grant-in-Aid Code would be revised. The computation of the grants-in-aid is so complex that many of the school-managers are unable to find how they arrive at the figures of grants that are

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made to each of these schools. They are more complex than the Income-tax rules. At least for the last three or four years, we can know on what intelligible basis the income-tax assessments are made. But with regard to the grants-in-aid, we are unable to find any intelligible method by which the department arrives at the figures on which they are now apportioning grants. I understand they are considered to be confidential. They are not made public to the managers of the schools even.

"Sir, with regard to the Local Self-Government Department . . . ."

The hon. Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Finished!"

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—"I do not want to deal with Excise, because you are incorrigible in that matter."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order. The hon. Member should address the Chair."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—"With regard to the Local Self-Government Department, our faith and our claim for more powers of self-government are dependent upon the manner in which we manage the local bodies and municipalties. If the Royal Commission promised either in 1929 or some other date are now to arrive here and take stock of the manner in which the conduct of local bodies and municipalities is directed by the Local Self-Government Department, I have not got the least suspicion that they will not say that of all provinces the province of Madras is not fit for self-government. The conditions of these self-governing institutions are very deplorable, and I say this deplorable condition is directly due to the manner in which the Ministry is working these institutions.

"Sir, the elections in these local boards and municipalities are not free from official interference, and nominations are made more on party considerations than with a view to improving the machinery by which these bodies are to be managed. And the manner in which the Reserved Half of the Government is helping the Transferred Half in this matter only shows that the Reserved Half is anxious to see that the local boards and municipalities so mismanage themselves as to make themselves unfit for any further instalment of self-government. I say this deliberately. Even the review reports of these local bodies are not free from official bias. Wherever there is a ministerialist as president of a local body the review is favourable; whereever there is not, the review is unfavourable. (The hon. the Raja of Panagal: 'That is not true'). The Raja of Ramnad wrote an article in the papers about this and it was not challenged. In certain municipalities, the president or the chairman is consulted with regard to nominations; in certain others they are not. For instance, in the Corporation of Madras I was not consulted with regard to the nominations." 1 p.m.

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"May I know which municipality was consulted in the matter of nomination?"

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—"Berhampur municipality was consulted."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"It is not at all true, Sir."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—"I may say that even with regard to the Corporation of Madras, the hon. the Minister wrote to an applicant for nomination that it was the President that was making the

nomination and not he. I possess that letter with me and I shall be able to produce it to-morrow, Sir. It is therefore unchallenged that it is the President of the Corporation of Madras that has to be consulted with regard to nominations. (The hon. the Raja of Panagal: 'It is not') At any rate he has to be consulted. He has not been consulted so far as one nomination was concerned. I even volunteered to make recommendations. I am yet to see how far the Government are going to disregard the President in this matter. Attempts are made to introduce persons who are politically opposed to the party that is working the municipality, or the President at any rate. The object of it is obvious. It is their desire to make the position of the President inconvenient and make his work impossible."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member has already exceeded his time by five minutes. Will he come to the end of his denunciations?"

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—" I shall leave the denunnications as they are"

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Sir, I am afraid I cannot congratulate the hon the Finance Member on this the third budget of the second Reformed Council. As I sat and listened attentively to the speech of the hon. the Finance Member, it struck me as if it was an apology or a sort of consolation, the consolation being that there was to be no further taxation although it is hard to see what else is left to Government to tax the people on. Therefore it is that I take the year's performance as more or less a sort of consolation prize to the Presidency; and no one generally is enthusiastic over a consolation prize. So, I am sorry I do not feel enthusiastic over the budget.

" Sir, on an occasion like this naturally one's thoughts wander to the ryot and how the agriculturist is benefited by the adjustments of the finances of the province. In spite of the recent weighty pronouncement of the Taxation Committee that the land tax in Madras is heaviest it is regrettable that in the present year's budget, which closely follows in the wake of the recent havoc in several districts owing to the heavy and unseasonable rains of December, when large remissions are naturally to be expected, especially in the district of Tanjore, the hon. the Finance Member should have budgeted for the same or nearly the same amount as receipts under land revenue as in the previous years. It is also regrettable that in spite of the crying demand, persistent and insistent demand, for permanent settlement, the charges under survey and settlement do not show any reduction.

" The Registration department, a department which, I take it, was originally intended to safeguard the rights of the people and their transactions, is used, I am sorry to say, as a sort of exploitation of the necessities of the poor ryots. For, I cannot otherwise understand how the department which recieves an income of 47 lakhs and spends only 27 lakhs out of it can keep up the registration charges at the present high level any longer. The other day the hon. the Finance Member wound up his speech with a very appropriate quotation from a very respectable classical author, Cicero, to the effect that 'thrift is a great source of revenue'. But I am afraid the hon. Member seems to have forgotten to apply that very noble principle in the preparation of the budget which he has presented to us. Because in spite of anything that may be said to the contrary, there is no denying the

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fact that the deficit in this province is due largely to the bloated expenditure on high paid posts. For instance, the same number of deputy collectors are kept up in spite of the fact that income-tax officers have been appointed in all districts. When we turn from the high paid jobs in several departments to the humbler but certainly more useful ranks of village officers, it is regrettable to find that in the budget provision is not made for the pay of the large number of village officers who it was recently resolved by this House ought to be automatically restored. Moreover, I find that the number of village officers for 1926-27 is practically the same figure. I think in the case of village headmen, it is about 11 or so less than in the previous year. This sort of indifference to the contentment and well-being of their subordinate staff is not a solitary exception in the case of village officers only. If you take another class of subordinates, a very useful class, the revenue inspectors, I am sorry to note that the recent arrangement by which they have been divided into two classes, probably upper and lower, with a very great difference in their pay, namely, Rs. 35 and Rs. 60, is very discouraging to a class of hard-worked and long-suffering subordinates. Especially we must remember that in the previous years the difference between the two sets of grades was only Rs. 5 a month and we must also not forget that practically both grades of people are expected to do the same kind of work.

"If we take another class of subordinates, namely, the forest rangers, I find their condition also has been very deplorable. We know these people, very often they are young men of good families. After an arduous course of studies in the Forest College, they enter the Forest department with naturally great hopes. But once they enter the department, they find that their hopes are all blasted. These people work from day to day in jungles, far away from the abodes of civilization, struggling hard against malaria on the one hand and deep-rooted prejudices of the villagers on the other. (One hon. Member: 'Against wild beasts'). I will come to the wild beasts in a moment. These people do not find any prospects of promotion; not only in the near future, I am afraid, but even in the distant future. A casual glance at the budget will reveal the fact that there are already a large number of extra assistant conservators. They are, I believe, superfluous, because as far as I have been able to gather, there is not any known duty which has been assigned to them or can be assigned to them. It is only after work has been found for these superfluous and supernumerary men that the rangers can be thought of. Besides, these supernumerary people are recruited direct. Although the rangers come in for such unsympathetic treatment, and although there are not enough appointments going for them, yet the inconvenience to which they are put in the course of their service is very great. It is common knowledge that when they apply for leave it is very rarely that they get it or in time. It has been admitted by the Chief Conservator, I think, that the percentage of relieving hands necessary to grant them leave is 20 but the present available number works out only at 14 per cent. Therefore if things are allowed to go unattended to and if no sympathy is shown by the head of the department, the fate of these people will go from bad to worse and discontent will grow. In an answer to an interpellation, I think on the 2nd of this month, it was stated that the Government are not aware of the grievances of these people. I do not know whether the Government do not read newspapers or whether they live

in a world where newspapers do not penetrate, or whether there is more truth in the saying 'None so blind as those who will not see' than are dreamt of. Well, this is the lot of these subordinates. The highly paid specialist officers under fancy names, such as exploitation officers, utilization officers and what not, continue to be added to the burden of the tax-payer. Apart from that, even the ordinary administrative staff in the Forest department has not undergone any diminution, although very large tracts of forest land have been and are being transferred from the control of the Forest department to the ryot. Not only that, even new appointments as panchayat staff are being added every day.

"I have given some careful attention to this aspect of the administration and I find it very hard to believe how on earth the ordinary rangers and the Forest subordinates are unfit to carry on the work for which these special panchayat officers are deemed fit. It is common knowledge that these rangers have received excellent training in the Forest College in almost every branch of scientific forestry. The present panchayat staff are recruited from the ministerial ranks of the Collectorate and have no special knowledge of the work. Government are very often found trotting out the old reason that the rangers have become very unpopular with the public, and that therefore they want to introduce the new set of officers. But if Government have been watching—as some of us have been watching—as to how these panchayat officers are fast becoming unpopular, I think they will no more trot out that old and exploded reasen Panchayat officers are becoming unpopular in spite of the very glowing word pictures on paper. In my district of North Arcot the panchayat officer recently circularised the panchayats asking them to pass resolutions prohibiting goat-grazing in poramboke lands. The heaven of the Reserved forest has been shut against the patient goat but now the porombokes also are to be taboo to them."

Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"That is not true."

The hon. the PRESIDENT : —"May I suggest to the hon. Member that he is taking much of his own time in dwelling upon the details of the administration. It would be more proper at a later stage of the budget discussion. May I ask him to confine himself to the general principles of governmental policy ? I am suggesting that not only in the interest of intelligent debate but also in his own interests."

1-15 p.m. Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"Goat-grazing is a very important matter to the ryots. If I do not speak now I may not have a chance of speaking on it later on. I shall confine myself, however, to the principles of Government policy.

"Sir, a thing which even the Forest department has not prohibited during the last so many years, the North Arcot District Special Panchayat officer has prohibited. I am told that several panchayats have even gone to the length of impounding many goats.

"The callous indifference of the Government towards the interests of the ryots would be further apparent from the way in which a practically unanimous resolution of this House recommending the grant of manure leaves to the ryots at a reasonable rate of seigniorage, viz., six annas. It is common knowledge that our forests have become very bushy and overgrown with wild creepers which not only stunt the growth of useful trees, but also

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afford harbourage to wild animals. If in a populous place like Aminjikari, a suburb of Madras, a cheetah can be found molesting the people, it is proof positive that our forests are getting overgrown and that the old belief that the forests will get denuded by allowing people to cut and remove green manure has no foundation.

"I am glad that minor irrigation—a prime necessity for ryots, specially in dry districts like North Arcot and Salem—is to receive the long-delayed help. I hope that something will be done during the current year to improve the pay and prospects and especially the travelling allowances of minor irrigation officers which are now fixed at a very, very low scale. I hope also the minor irrigation supervisors also will be re-introduced at an early date."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Will not the hon. Member be satisfied with another sentence or two of this peroration?"

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"I will say a few words, Sir, with your indulgence, about the department of Co-operation. The writings of Sir Frederick Nicholson and Settlement reports show that the indebtedness of the ryots is now about Rs. 4,000 lakhs, and that the loans granted by the Co-operative movement to the ryots amount to only Rs. 45 lakhs. This shows how far we can say we have removed indebtedness of the ryots. So also in the case of loans for cultivation purposes, while Rs. 3,800 lakhs will be the amount necessary for the ryot to cultivate the 380 lakhs of acres available for cultivation giving only Rs. 10 as cost per acre we have lent only Rs. 26 lakhs for this purpose. That is, we have to progress 150 times before we can say we have done something to wipe off the indebtedness of the cultivator or finance him sufficiently to carry on his one calling—Agriculture. The co-operative movement is not only not progressing but going downwards. Sir, during the last six years the average amount of loan per member has declined from Rs. 44 to 31. The reserve fund percentage also has declined from 6·2 to 5·92 and overdues have increased from 25 to 42 per cent. That is a dangerous position if my hon. Friend the Development Minister will only realise it. For the fall in the average of the loan is indicative of the unpopularity of co-operative loans and the fall in the percentage of the reserve fund is an indication that the movement is not working on sound lines. While the department is working like this most unsatisfactorily, the number of appointments has gone up in the cadre of Assistant Registrars, Deputy Registrars, Inspectors and clerks and men are appointed with no known qualifications whatever. On the top of this comes the audacious proposal to appoint a Joint Registrar while all along the public was assured that only audit staff was needed. Even our apologetic Minister cannot give any reason for these appointments, much less can he justify them. All these have gone up in spite of the fact that there are now 320 non-official unions employing 400 supervisors to do this work. Further, several employees in the department, on account of the fact that communalism pays nowadays, have now begun a campaign of distrust of non-official activities and are trying the game of dividing urban from rural co-operators and central banks from primary societies. The scandal of the department's attitude in the matter of Honorary Assistant Registrars—more as reward for communal considerations—is only too well known."

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" May I ask the hon. Member to come to an end of his peroration ? "

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Only one more sentence, Sir. In my own district of Salem co-operative workers have been caught red-handed with benami loans, retaining and misusing of cash balances and other crimes and they are not punished for no other understandable reason than this communal bias. Sir, I can go on piling other iniquities any observer can see in the department The Government must remember that 10 crores of the public money, widows' and orphans' money and the hard-earned savings of pensioners and of ill-paid public servants are invested in the central banks in the fond hope that Government is looking after these investments watchfully. Therefore, in the interest of the savings of these trusting people at least, Government must take care of the efficient supervision of these banks which I assert emphatically is very much neglected. Sir, the recent report of the Mangudi Society defalcation in which Rs 8,000 out of the working capital of Rs. 13,000 was eaten away by a single Secretary has revealed the fact that the expensive staff of Inspectors, etc., the total of whose wages has increased from 3 lakhs to 7 lakhs during the last six years are not auditing properly. The investigation has revealed that Inspectors do not audit but copy the figures given by the low-paid and ill-equipped supervisors. Most of the newly-recruited staff are more communal men and they think they have the support of the communal Minister at their back. Their audit is no audit at all and even in the case of the central bank which they are supposed to 'test' audit there is no pretence at auditing. In conclusion, I want the public to realise how dangerous it has become to invest their savings in this movement unsuspectingly, under the impression that the Government is at the back of their monies. They are unaware of the fact that the canker of communalism is eating into the vitals of this noble movement. I am sorry that the knowledge of this danger is sought to be kept out from the public eye, but if I have succeeded in calling the attention of the public and roused them to a sense of their duty I shall not consider I have spoken in vain."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I think we may take that as the final sentence."

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" I bow to your order, Sir."

Mr. P. SIVA RAO :—" Mr. President, I congratulate the hon. the Finance Member on the admirable way in which he has presented this year's budget. Sir, the budget presents many satisfactory features about it. It provides for an additional expenditure of about 73 lakhs on various items some of which are highly useful to the country at large. It provides for about 10 lakhs towards the execution of what is known as the Pykara Hydro-electric project, about 14 lakhs for the expansion of elementary education, and about 34,000 for the extension of medical relief in rural areas. For these reasons it presents many satisfactory features for which there has not been adequate appreciation.

" The hon. the Finance Member has not been altogether able to escape a deficit in the coming year as the budget lands us in a deficit of about 19½ lakhs. It is not altogether his fault because it is a legacy which he has inherited from the past and I do not think it is in the capacity of any Finance Member to wipe off a deficit which has been handed down from year to year.

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Sir, it is also unfortunate that he has not been able to devote the whole of the 57 lakhs remitted by the Government of India out of the provincial contributions to expend on nation-building departments.

"Having said this, I pass on to one aspect of the matter in that it provides liberally for the Mettur Project scheme. I am not jealous of that scheme. I am not jealous of the position which the Mettur project occupies in the minds of the Government. But I want that the Government should bestow some attention upon what is known as the Tungabhadra project also. The hon. the Law Member is aware that the Government appointed a Committee to consider the question of the irrigation facilities in the Ceded districts and Chittoor and the Committee have submitted a preliminary report in which they have come to a certain definite conclusion. They have recommended certain projects in a modified form, and the other day, we heard in answer to an interpellation put to the hon. the Law Member that the Government were about to sanction or have already sanctioned what is known as the West Canal Project scheme which benefits Bellary. But I have not been able to find any provision for it in the budget. Probably it may be lurking somewhere in the numerous pages of the budget estimate which I have not been able to find out. This West Canal project is only an attenuated form of the original Tungabhadra project.

" Speaking further, I wish to dilate on one particular aspect of the matter. It is opportune that we should refer in this connexion when we are considering the general aspect of this budget to the recommendations of the Taxation Inquiry Committee. One of the main recommendations made by that Committee is that land revenue should be standardized. The land revenue can be standardized only when the Resettlement Bill which has been on the legislative anvil for four or five years is introduced and placed on the Statute book and the settlement systematized. We heard this morning in answer to a question put that the matter is still under correspondence with the Government of India. I do not know how long the Government of Madras will take to introduce this most salutary measure that the country has been thinking of. Probably they may not introduce this wholesome measure until the whole of the resettlement operations are over, and there is no opportunity for it for some thirty years to come. If that is their beneficial intention by all means let them say so. The earlier a Land Revenue Settlement Bill is introduced and placed on the Statute book the better will it be for the country.

" I pass on now, Sir, to draw the attention of the House to the very very inadequate nature of the resources of the local bodies. More than once it has been brought to the notice of hon. Members how pitifully meagre are the resources of the local bodies even to meet their ordinary demands. It was with this view, Sir, that a few years ago at my humble instance a Committee which was known as the Financial Relations Committee of which Sir Muhammad Habib-ul-lah was the President was appointed. After an elaborate enquiry the Committee made certain definite recommendations. One of the main recommendations of that Committee was that a portion of the excise revenue derived from jurisdiction of a local body, one anna in the rupee, I believe, should be allotted for local purposes. This recommendation has not been carried into effect. There were other recommendations also which have not been carried into effect. The object of several of those

recommendations was to improve, strengthen and consolidate the resources of the local bodies and these have not been seriously considered by the local Government. In the meantime there came this Taxation Inquiry Committee which considered the relations between the Central Government and the Provincial Governments and the relations between the Provincial Governments and the local bodies. They have come to the conclusion that the resources of the local bodies are very meagre, very scanty and require to be strengthened as early as possible and that is the firm conviction of the hon. the Finance Member. In his speech he stated that in spite of the liberal provision which he has been able to make in the present budget they remained still inadequate. This is what the hon. the Finance Member said: 'These resources, even if efficiently administered and developed, are quite inadequate to meet the many claims upon them', to enable them to discharge the numerous duties which have been imposed upon them by Statute. And that is the unanimous conclusion of the Taxation Inquiry Committee.

1-30 p.m. "I shall incidentally refer to certain other recommendations made by the Taxation Inquiry Committee with reference to the Provincial Governments. They strongly recommend that the court fees should be reduced; the stamp fees should be reduced; and the land revenue should be standardised. Again, Sir, in dealing with the resources of the local bodies they make certain recommendations to which I need not refer in detail at present. The ground rent derived within the limits of the town should be added to the local bodies' revenue. A third recommendation was that the system of doles to the local bodies should cease altogether and 'that they should be granted on some uniform and easily comprehensible plan so worked out in advance that the local body can arrange its programme of expenditure in good time and provide for a due adjustment between that, its expected receipts from provincial funds and its scheme of taxation' (page 394). I very strongly urge for the early appointment of a Committee to consider the relations between the Central and the Provincial Government, and especially the financial relations between the Provincial Government and the local bodies in the light of the recommendations made by the Taxation Enquiry Committee. If it may not benefit us this year, it may at least be useful for the years to come. I strongly urge for the appointment of a Committee to consider how best to augment, strengthen and husband the resources of the local bodies."

The House adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch. (2-30 p.m.)

* The hon the PRESIDENT:—"Before we proceed with the discussion on the budget I may be allowed to state that in the course of the forenoon I have received a number of chits from several hon. Members asking to be allowed to speak. I am always glad to receive communications from hon. Members but on the present occasion I do not think they are necessary. The only way to catch my eye is to get up and catch it."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"Are we to take it that the chits have no precedence either?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"No."

Mr. ABDUL HYE SAHIB:—"Sir, it is a matter of no little regret to us that while we stood in expectation of having at least a balanced

budget presented to us this year, we are once more confronted, much to our dismay, with a deficit budget. If only the axe of retrenchment applied to the poor subordinates had been applied to the existing top-heavy administration, there might have been no such thing as a deficit budget. Here is an opportunity therefore, for the hon. Ministers to set a noble example to others by showing to the world that it is not only high salaries that count for everything but the love of labour for its own sake. At a critical time like this they must voluntarily come to our rescue by accepting one-half of their present fat salaries and not as usual stand on the question of false prestige as compared with that of the Executive Council Members. Interpellations previously put in the Council have elicited that the Council Secretaries are more or less like so many white elephants stabled to give the Ministers the requisite air of importance. They have all along been undesirable drain on the poor man's purse. The earlier they are done away with the better.

"Coming now to some of the various departments I cannot help singling out the Jail Department as one where real economy can be effected. I have been ever harping on the necessity of abolishing the Alipuram Jail, Bellary. but to no purpose. I am not afraid to repeat that those prisoners who are convicted of serious offences might be distributed among the various Presidency jails, and others convicted for minor offences might be set at liberty. This is an item where really tangible savings can be effected. The allotment of 1½ lakhs of rupees for education is undoubtedly a move in the right direction, but it remains to be seen how far Muslims will be benefited thereby. No standard has so far been prescribed in the Elementary Education Survey Report for the schoolless villages inhabited by Muhammadans. The education of the Muslims girls is in a most neglected condition. Non-Muhammadan male officers ignorant of the Urdu language are not likely to advance its cause. Unless one of the subordinates like the Assistant or Sub-Assistant Inspectress necessarily a female (Muhammadan or Non-Muhammadan) knowing of course Urdu is placed in the sole charge of Muhammadan female education, there is absolutely no hope for anything like advancement in the near future.

"A sum of Rs. 89,500 has been provided for strengthening the subordinate inspecting agency. There can be no two opinions about its necessity. But if in the name of the said agency the old supervisors of schools discarded some time ago are to be brought back under a different nomenclature, their re-entertainment will prove to be a matter of doubtful utility. It is not known either how far the Muhammadan inspecting agency will be strengthened.

"In conclusion, Sir, I sincerely hope that the above suggestions for retrenchment and the amelioration of a backward community like that of the Muslims will receive the earnest consideration of Government."

*Mr. J. A Davis :—" Sir, I represent a minority community. As we are in the minority, year after year we are not able to get any further with our educational development. In view of the remission of a portion of our contribution to the Central Government this year, I make a special appeal to the Government to show some consideration to the Anglo-Indian community. The hon. Member who just preceded me, appealed for more facilities for Muslim education; may I not appeal for some more consideration in the matter of education to our community.

"I may point out that we in Ootacamund raised subscriptions and started our own school—the Breeks Memorial School. We collected a large sum of money and established a common school for Indians, Anglo-Indians and Europeans As Anglo-Indians we have always co-operated with our Indian brethren. When the Madras Government reserved the Breeks Memorial School for Europeans and Anglo-Indians, a Municipal High School was started for the Indian section alone. In the Breeks Memorial School we do not get the same educational facilities as we get in a common national school, due to lack of funds. The municipality spends large sums of money in addition to the net cost of the High school for the education of our Indian brothers in Ootacamund. I make a special appeal to the Government to-day to see that the very organizers of these educational institutions in Ootacamund do not suffer owing to the splitting up of the original institution.

"Sir, even in the matter of medical treatment our community subscribed some lakhs of rupees and endowed St. Bartholomew's hospital. But as soon as the Reformed Government came in, we were given only the ordinary headquarter hospital at Ootacamund without any special advantages for our large endowments.

"Sir, I must congratulate the hon. the Finance Member on his budget. As the chairman of a municipality with a few lakhs of income, I know the difficulties of framing a budget. I can therefore fully appreciate the budget as it is framed this year. I find in it schemes like the Mettur and Pykara projects, schemes which will in future years bring in recurring revenues to this Presidency. There are other works of great consequence also, all of which will serve to commemorate the term of office of the hon. the Law Member. I congratulate him.

"I shall now make a special appeal to the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government. In keeping our municipal accounts we are continually taken to task by Government auditors. We cheerfully submit to all these pin pricks and do our work to the best of our abilities. The Ootacamund Municipal Council is one which collects almost 98 per cent of its revenues, i.e., four lakhs of rupees. Since the introduction of the Reformed Government things have changed with us. The Government stays there only for three months in the year and therefore much of the revenue that we were getting before does not come our way. I do not make this a special matter for complaint. We are so adjusting our finances as to keep the station up to the mark, though Government does not give us as much support in the shape of grants as heretofore.

"I must make a special appeal to the hon. Minister for Local Self-Government in connexion with this matter.

"I wish to invite his attention to a provision in the last Bill to amend the District Municipalities Act.

"There are many welcome amendments. There is one amendment with regard to the collection of our revenues. We feel we have been insulted in the reasons given for the insertion of that amendment. We would be the first to surrender our privileges if we default in the collection of our revenue. I am sure none of our Councillors will be against the punishment of defaulting municipalities. But, Sir, there is a feeling throughout Ootacamund that in a Presidency where, according to Lord Willingdon, the Reforms have been

worked more successfully than elsewhere, that to bring in an amendment to the effect that chairmen who are elected and responsible to the electorate for municipal administration should not have even the power of fixing the assessment, is carrying matters too far. Such a provision if carried would be a blot on the fair name of the Presidency. (Hear, hear.)

" I appeal to the hon. Minister for Local Self-Government to see that that provision is omitted when he reintroduces the amending Bill.

" We quite agree that defaulting municipalities should be punished and severely punished. Any number of Revenue Officers may be appointed, who might examine the finances of such municipalities. But to argue that those responsible to the electorate cannot be trusted even with the fixing of assessment is striking at the very root of local self-government and democracy. I appeal to the Chief Minister to place greater trust in those returned by the electorate."

Mr. P. PEDDIRAJU :—" Mr. President, Sir, the budget is a most disappointing one. I am not concerned with the framing of the budget. No doubt only 76 lakhs is shown as deficit. The real deficit is much more than that because we are borrowing 282 lakhs of rupees. Deducting 57 lakhs it is 230 lakhs and odd. That shows that we are borrowing nearly 300 lakhs of rupees every year. We are borrowing year after year so that we are not able to balance our budget and our provincial finance has not improved. In spite of the fact that we got one crore last year and half a crore this year we are not able to balance our budget. That is a sorry picture of our finance. 2-45 p.m.

" Coming more to the needs and grievances of the people I will first turn my attention to the hon. the Leader of the House. Coming as I do from a district which has got much irrigation, I think that the real grievances of the people will have to be attended to by the hon the Leader of the House who is in charge of Irrigation. I am sorry to say that in spite of nearly 2 crores that he is going to ask for Irrigation no provision has been made for the Kistna district, Gōdāvari Western and Kistna Eastern deltas. With regard to the Gōdāvari delta, no work is provided for in spite of the fact that for the last three years the Government have been promising to do something in the shape of remodelling or improving the drains. The late Sir Arthur Cotton when he constructed the anicut and sent up his final report said that several millions were still to be spent to improve the drains if irrigation was to be successful in that delta. I am sorry to say that year after year nothing has been done. For some years before Reforms the Government pleaded poverty owing to war. My predecessors coming from my district appealed to the Government and their cries were useless. In 1924 I gave a detailed picture of the needs of the Gōdāvari Western delta. I stated that the irrigation channels were in disrepair, that there was no silt clearance for about 20 years and that the drains were neglected. The hon. the Law Member was pleased to assure me that the Chief Engineer had made a note of those things and that early steps would be taken as early as possible to remedy the grievances. The Government have not yet moved its little finger.

" The only work undertaken in the Gōdāvari Western delta is the improvement of the Yenamadurru drain, for which one lakh is provided every year but only a sum of Rs. 70,000 or 80,000 is spent. I must say that the

money spent for that purpose is being wasted and is not well utilized because if all the one lakh of rupees are spent on the improvement of the drain I shall be satisfied. But what was done during the last three years is that a drag line excavator has been brought in at a cost of nearly Rs. 80,000 and is put up there. It has not commenced to work though there is a lot of establishment. Most of the money is wasted. I think the establishment costs about Rs. 1,000 a month. The Government has the audacity to say in reply to my questions sometime back, that it is working. I am sorry to say that it has not commenced to work. It was trying to work only in the month of January this year. Experts have come and gone and they have tried to work the machine. It is turning out work which is one-fourth of what manual labour can do. In spite of the repeated warnings I am sorry to say that the Government does not move, does not see what is being done and how much money is wasted. I appeal to the hon. the Law Member to go over to the place and see the thing for himself. That is why I say that money is being wasted on the improvement of the Yenamadurru drain.

"As regards the improvement of irrigation channels I am sorry to see that no provision is made The hon. the Law Member was pleased to say two years back that a programme would be drawn up and that special establishment would be appointed. But nothing has been done.

"Then coming to the Kistna delta I am glad that certain proposals regarding the construction of shutters over the anicut have been undertaken. But my submission is that the construction of these is not after all useful unless the Government investigates into how the improvement in water regulation will help the ryot. I have brought to the notice of the Government often that several lands in Kaikalur taluk have not been registered under ayacut. The lands lie waste. Nothing has been done. The people are becoming poor and poor and they die of starvation. The Government spent 6 to 7 lakhs over the shutters. Some more lands should be brought under cultivation so that the Government will be able to collect revenue and the people will be able to irrigate their lands.

"I wish to offer a few remarks about the localization in the delta. The Government is aware that there are several estates in the Gōdāvari Western delta where there are several unlocalized mamul wet lands. Of late years the Government insisted on localization and the proprietors have localized certain lands. Localization is merely intended to improve the administrative convenience of the Government. I brought this fact to the notice of the Government and the hon. the Law Member assured me at the time of the consideration of the Irrigation Bill that, in spite of localization, all lands which are being irrigated now would continue to receive water. I have got instances in three estates where the Government is collecting penal water-cess. All these lands are being irrigated for several years; these lands are mamul wet lands. In spite of this fact, the Government is saying that it is unauthorized irrigation and in certain cases five times or twenty times the amount is collected.

"Another difficulty which I brought to the notice of the Government when you have localization is the question from whom you are to collect the water-cess on the lands. Ordinarily, the water-cess is to be collected from the zamindar, because all these estates are in the A schedule. There is provision in the new Irrigation Bill also that the Government should not

interfere with the existing rights between the ryots and the zamindar. The Government calls all these as unauthorized irrigation and collects water-cess from the ryots. So, the ryots suffer in two ways. Not only do they pay water-cess to the Government, they are paying by way of assessment to the zamindar also. They also pay penal water-cess This is a very hard state of things and I would request the hon. the Law Member to hold an enquiry into these things. I can give him two or three instances, in the villages of Konithavada, Neredumalli and Ravipadu, which have come to my notice. I request the Government to consider and take steps to remedy this grievance.

" Another point that I wish to mention in this connexion is that provision is made year after year for the improvement of the Chettipet bank, the Nakkala drain, etc. Nothing has been done during the last three years though some money has been spent on them. The bunds are unprotected. It is a first-class bund. It is not repaired; it is not raised. In order to protect the bund, they have made some stop gap arrangement. A sum of Rs. 600 or 700 is spent every year and the remaining Rs. 700 is not utilized."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Before the hon Member wastes his time on such details, may I suggest to him that he may confine himself to the general principles of administrative policy? This is not the time for going into details."

Mr. P. PEDDIRAJU :—" I am bound by your ruling. I gave notice of resolutions on these subjects, but I have had no opportunity of moving them for want of time. This is the only opportunity to speak on them. These are the grievances from which my district is suffering and I may be permitted to go on.

" Then, Sir, proposals were sent up for the improvement of the Vijjeswaram head sluices. But nothing has been done till now.

" I find that provision has been made in the budget for special establishments for the localization of the second-crop zone in the Gōdāvari Western delta. So far as I know, it is a troublesome business. The matter was investigated during the course of some years and it was given up for some time. I wish to bring to the notice of the Government that a special establishment was appointed in 1909–12 and Mr. Rangachari who investigated this matter prepared plans and estimates. All these reports are lying idle in the office; all these papers have been burnt or consigned to waste paper basket. A sum of Rs. 1,92,000 was wasted upon this matter.

" Last year, the hon. the Law Member proposed to explore and find out ways to reduce the court-fees. I do not know if any steps were taken in that direction. There are no signs of any action being taken.

" So far as the two departments under his charge are concerned, Courts and Police, they are well-established departments and are apt to get practically what all they want. The only useful department under his charge is Irrigation. New projects are being undertaken. But I am sorry to say that nothing has been done to safeguard the existing rights.

" Turning to the hon. the Revenue Member, I want to point out one or two mistakes. Survey and settlement operations are being conducted now. So far as our districts are concerned, there was survey in the years 1858 and 1897.

"The difficulty that is being experienced is that, if there is any difference between the survey of 1897 and the present survey, the Survey Department is penalizing it and levying a charge in the shape of the value of the land. Many of us have sent notices of resolutions to remedy the defect; but they could not be moved for want of time. If the present extent, i.e., the extent according to the present survey is in consonance with the old survey or resurvey, I request the hon. the Revenue Member to see that the larger extent that is recorded according to the old survey may be adopted and that no charge is made on that. Unfortunately we have no time to move resolutions. Therefore I will draw the attention of the Government now. This is a very serious matter which interferes with the rights of individual ryots. The attention of the officers concerned may be drawn to it.

"The Government is aware that in almost all villages there is want of vacant sites for constructing houses and building cattle sheds. What the ryots are doing now is they are raising the level of the fields and constructing houses and cattle sheds on the fields themselves. What I wish to point out is that these sites are still surveyed and classed as fields and the wet assessment rates are imposed on them. I would request the Government to see that the house-sites which adjoin the villages might be converted into village-sites. If there are stray houses and sheds away from the village and if there are raised grounds fit for building cattle sheds, they may be surveyed and subdivided; only the dry assessment should be fixed on them instead of wet assessment."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member has so far come only to
3 p.m. the Revenue Member. If he will finish all the other Members of Government within one sentence, let him go on."

Mr. P. PEDDIRAJU :—"I am not going to do that.

"Sir, these are the two things which I wanted to say. Coming to the Home Member . . . "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member must have calculated the time that he would take when he began to go into the details of administration. I suppose he will finish in one sentence."

Mr. P. PEDDIRAJU :—"There is no use of concluding in one sentence."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, I freely concede that it is but right that credit must be given to the Government wherever it can be done, whether it is Reserved Half or Transferred Half, but at the same time I cannot shut my eyes to the fact that their actual achievement is small when compared with what they might have easily done. I agree that the hon. Minister for Local Self-Government has done us some good. For example, I welcome the Religious Endowments Act though I dislike the provisions contained in it which lend themselves to the use of the administrative machinery for party purposes. I welcome again his establishment of the Indian School of Medicine and his reorganization of the Health Department, but I must draw the line when I come to the administration of Local Self-Government Department. I am very sorry to note that he seems to think that he is justified in using his position as Local Self-Government Minister to strengthen his party. For instance, local boards are thrown open to election or nomination just as he is able to decide

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whether his party men will succeed or not. Nominations are made, I do not know, on what justifiable principles. Sometimes the composition of the boards is changed on principles, which I submit in all humility do not bear scrutiny, so that his partisans may get all the support they can. The hon. Minister for Self-Government has been saying that the Local Self-Government Department should hereafter be based on broad foundations and that for this purpose, he should begin his work in villages. He refers now to the establishment of village panchayats. I ask whether it took him all these six years to make this wonderful discovery. Statesman after statesman has been saying all these years that the growth of Local Self-Government depends upon the establishment of village panchayats. Well, a year ago, when I tabled a resolution connected with this matter, the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government assured me that he was going to bring in a Bill and asked me to withdraw my resolution. The resolution that I wanted to move was for providing facilities for the disposal of suits in villages. I am yet to see that the Bill which he promised to introduce sees the light of day."

"As regards grants to local bodies there again I do not see any fair distribution. I find that district boards which have an income of 6 lakhs of rupees or 8 lakhs of rupees are treated more favourably than poorer boards which have an income of 1½ lakhs of rupees.

"Take again the grants which he succeeded in securing this year. He secured some 15 lakhs of rupees for the improvement of water-supply and village communication. He laid down that the concerned board should provide for an equal sum before he could give it anything out of this grant. How many estimates and plans have been prepared for all this sum and how much of the 30 lakhs of rupees that should have been alloted for wells and communications is going to be spent? How many schemes have been put in execution? How many schemes for which plans and estimates have already been prepared are still pending and how many to complete will be within this year and how many in the next year? I think these points deserve close scrutiny and examination. Why should we not follow the method followed by commercial firms and earmark the allotment and make it available for the next year also so that the work may be completed within the next year if it cannot be finished within this year. I am sure the hon. the Finance Member is calculating on the non-utilisation and consequent lapse of these sums and I doubt very much whether any deficit is going to occur, and whether he cannot wipe off the deficit of 19 lakhs and odd rupees by the sums likely to remain unspent this year.

"I do not want to dwell again on the Excise policy of the hon. Minister Sir A. P. Patro. He is a person beyond my power. (Laughter). All that I can say is that during all these years he never made any sincere attempt to abolish the drink evil."

*The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Question."

*Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"If you want me to go into details, I may ask the hon. the Minister for Excise what the Excise Advisory Committee did, how often it met and what steps he took in regard to the abolition of this drink evil. To elicit public opinion on this matter this Committee called for several witnesses to come and give their opinions and when the latter came on a particular day one of his Secretaries or Assistant

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Secretaries proposed to the Committee that the whole thing might be put off indefinitely. Is this seriousness on his part in tackling this problem?

"The hon. the Development Minister fortunately or unfortunately is in charge of departments vitally affecting the welfare of the people. Agriculture and Industries are the two important occupations of the people and yet, Sir, what has he done? The number of people who were depending upon these occupations as a means of livelihood is steadily declining, and the number of people who are now unemployed is increasing. Out of every thousand people there were 481 agricultural workers in the year 1901. This figure dropped down to 456 in 1911. Again in 1921 it dropped down still further to 381. Analysed it means that 20 per cent of these land-owners find it impossible to make both ends meet. They get themselves so heavily involved in debt that they cannot but part with their lands in order to keep their body and soul together. Does it mean that these people have become so disgusted with their agricultural occupation and therefore they have given up that occupation? Does it mean that they have resorted to industrial occupation? No, because I find from the reports that as against 56 lakhs of people who were depending upon industries in 1911 there were only 48 lakhs of people in 1921. So, Sir, if you really face the situation, it means that you have not rendered any appreciable benefit to our people in the departments of agriculture and industries. I do not know if the hon. the Minister for Development has done anything in this direction to investigate and find out the causes and the remedies therefor. He may say 'I have no money'. I do submit that this reply cannot bear examination. I want to know what he has done all these years or what his predecessor has done with the money that was given to them year after year? I find from the figures so far available that the Development Department allowed 4·3 lakhs of the year 1921-22 to lapse. In 1922-23 a sum of 4·6 lakhs lapsed, in 1923-24, 4·9 lakhs and in 1924-25, 8·9 lakhs When they were thus not able to utilize the money that was given to them what justification can there be for saying that they have no money? Can he say that the real improvements which are imperatively needed in the direction of agriculture and industries had to be postponed because of want of money?

"The hon. the Home Member is showing some initiative and sympathy in the matter of Forest administration. But I do appeal to him to examine the policy in regard to giving up forests to village panchayats. Government are trying to exploit village forests and get money out of them. It must be his policy to give the forests to villagers on the most easy terms possible so that the villagers may have any incentive to keep them under their control as far as they can. The Government when they had their forest under their control had to meet heavy establishment charges in order to carry on their administration. If the Government were not till now getting anything for these forests, why should they be insisted upon the poor villagers to pay a heavy rent now? I request the hon. the Home Member to consider this question well.

"I am glad that the hon. the Revenue Member has done many things to relieve the sufferings of the ryots, but I must say in regard to districts in the famine zones his administration is lacking in forethought and statesmanship. Our districts—I am speaking for the whole of them—are situated in the famine zone. Famines occur there periodically. What have the Government

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done hitherto? There has been suspension of revenue for the last two or three years. They do not want to see that the ryots should start with a clean slate after the unfavourable year. Instead of writing off the revenue they allow the kists to accumulate and try to collect them all together with the result that the ryots cannot reclaim their normal position even in favourable reasons. In my own district the kist due for the years 1922-23 and 1923-24 remained unpaid till this year. Even for the current year it remains in arrears. Kists of all these years are being collected along with the dues of current dues in one year. This is not all when there is famine in one year, the Government do not start famine relief works. On the other hand they are so liberal in their distribution of loans probably because they expect to recover them with interest. The unfortunate ryots enter into the snares spread by the Government and borrow as much money as they can and repent when they are asked to repay them. In this year the ryots of Anantapur and Bellary are faced with this very difficult situation and in very many villages the ryots are further required to pay two years assessment arrears. I would ask the hon. the Revenue Member to kindly consider over this question and see whether the Government cannot put off the collection of their loans to the next harvest.

"As regards the hon. the Law Member--he has seen our districts, he knows the economic condition of our people yet I fear that he is acting upon the policy 'To him that hath more shall be given and from him that hath not the little that he hath shall be taken away'. It must be the duty of the State to render help more to the people who are in need of it than to people who can get along without such help from the Government. Here are districts with very poor resources. I ask the hon. the Law Member what he has done for them? Apart from the statements he has made here and there what has he actually done in initiating big schemes? With regard to West Canal project, the scheme was investigated and plans and estimates were prepared and it was accepted that the scheme would yield favourable results. I do not see any provision made in the next year's budget for this scheme. What has he done now in this budget to carry out the investigations with regard to the Tungabhadra project, whether in its old or new form? I hope he will correct me if I am wrong, but I think that there are many big schemes independent of this Tungabhadra scheme which the people themsevles are prepared to work but the Government are following the 'dog in the manger policy' and would not work these projects themselves, or allow the people to work them.

"Sir, these are all matters which ought to be borne in mind by the respective Members of Government and something done to relieve the situation in our districts.

"Sir, you commented that we must discuss the general principles and with your permission I must say one or two words. I do feel that this trouble and lethargy in administration is due to the weakness of the hon. Ministers and that weakness is due to the fact that, apart from their own strength or weakness of alienation with the Government they have alienated on the one side the intelligent section of the people owing to their communal bias and on the other, have not retained the sympathy and support of the Government.

3-15 p.m. "I cannot understand a party which does not stand out for programmes or policies but wants to entrench itself within fortifications of birth and other objectionable materials. Again, Sir, they are not dealing fairly, I must say, with the Reserved half. If the Reserved departments are willing to take the Ministers into their confidence and be guided by them in all that they do here in the Council, I say it is up to the Ministers to share responsibility with the Executive Council Members and to stand or fall with them. If on the other hand the Reserved half is not willing to take them into confidence, then it is up to the Ministers to tell them that they are not prepared to give their support to the Government in any measure which they may embark upon without their consent, and if they persist in that course, to even risk an election on that issue. I may tell the Ministers whoever may be occupying those places, that if they face an election on that issue, I can say without fear of contradiction, that the country will see to it that these patriots who raised such an issue and risked their future on that issue will certainly not suffer by that."

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" Mr. President, Sir, it is unfortunate that year after year this House is faced with deficit budgets, the only consolation however being the prospect, the hope of realisation of something by way of remission of the provincial contribution. Even that seems to have the effect of increasing the deficit far from reducing it.

"The outstanding feature in the present budget seems to me to be the inadequacy of the allotments made for subjects of wide popular utility. Take for instance the provision made for the Andhra University that is to come into being. The hon. the Minister for Education may say that it is a provisional allotment, but I have my own fear as to whether greater interest will be taken in the matter later on. Further in regard to this question, I hear rumours that certain posts, professorial, tutorial and clerical, are being hurriedly filled up with non-Andhras. I have every confidence that there is ample Andhra talent to be utilized for these services. If there is any truth in these rumours, I would like to appeal to the hon. Minister for Education to see to it that only Andhras are appointed for the posts so that the aspirations of the Andhras, the very foundation on which the Andhra University question rose may be strengthened.

"Then, Sir, turning to the Local Self-Government Department, I see that no proper allotment has been made for village reconstruction, for improvement of rural roads and for the spread of medical relief in rural areas. Late during the present year, when some portion of the provincial contribution was remitted, some amount was found for the needs of the rural areas. But unfortunately many other circumstances had intervened before the object could be realized. Since a part of the contribution had to be borne by the local boards who in their turn had to throw a part of the burden on the local ryots, the system did not work from the beginning and it is now hoped that it will be pushed at some speed. I hope that without allowing the amount that has been allotted to lapse, the hon. Minister for Local Self-Government will see his way to provide additional funds for the purpose.

"In connexion with water-supply schemes, I may invite the attention of the hon. Minister for Local Self-Government to the Gudur water-supply scheme which has been long expected. I am sure, Sir, that the hon. the Raja of Panagal knows personally the untold miseries that the Gudur public and

the people who resort to that place frequently are suffering from! It is the headquarters of a very big division; it lies at the junction where the perennial stream of pilgrims to the sacred shrine of Tirupati pass by and it lies also at the centre of a very big mica producing tract. Year after year, it is very sickening to note in the pages of the *Fort St. George Gazette* the scarcity of water-supply in the town even for drinking purposes. A few months back, the district board of Nellore raised the question once again but probably the enthusiasm of late on this vital question has waned. I now take this opportunity to make a personal appeal to the hon. Minister so that he might take the question up and afford the necessary relief to the people in as early a time as possible. As regards medical relief to rural areas, there has been some misgiving as to the success of the scheme of organizing rural dispensaries. No doubt, trained men are wanting and the emoluments that are offered to these trained practitioners are not sufficient to attract them to the several dispensaries. There is however another system which is more cheap, more attractive and of greater use to the rural public. I mean the Indian system of medicine. The hon. Minister may now say that he cannot get practitioners trained in that system for there are not many that have been trained in it: and even in the Government School of Indian Medicine, it will probably take four or even more years to get the required number of men. I may suggest here that there are many private colleges and schools of Indian medicine in the Presidency working very satisfactorily and trained men may be either directly recruited to these dispensaries or an entrance examination for the purpose may be held to test their capacity before employment. Now the presidents of taluk and district boards are allowed to utilize their funds for opening Ayurvedic dispensaries and they are choosing their own trained men without consulting the Government. When they are allowed to do so, I cannot find the reason why the Government should shrink back from adopting the policy in regard to other institutions also. I should like to say that one school of Indian medicine for the whole of the Presidency will not suffice to cater to the needs of the whole area and a couple of them more will be able to train sufficient number of men in the direction. I hope the hon. Minister will take up the question seriously and consider the possibility of giving effect to it.

"Turning then to the question of the restoration of village officers, it is disappointing to find that the figures in the budget estimates do not show that provision has been made for the restoration of all the old officers. I am unable to comprehend the reason for such a state of affairs. Apart from that the pay of the village officers which has been fixed at Rs. 15, I hope, will not be reduced by the Government in the interests of the public and of administration too.

"Turning to the hon. the Minister for Development, I may state that he has not been moving in the proper direction in the matter of spending the money placed at his disposal. He is ready to spend lakhs for acquiring lands, for the upkeep of farms which are intended mainly for improving certain breed of cattle in certain localities. At the same time he is not taking particular care about the protection of cattle all over the presidency by improving the number of veterinary dispensaries and equipping them in a satisfactory manner. Promises were made some time back about the opening of new dispensaries; they have yet to be realised. I hope that hereafter at least the country will realise them.

"I have got only one other point before I close.

3-30 p.m. "Now, Sir, I have got only one point more. I very much like to invite the attention of the hon. the Law Member to the utter neglect of the district of Nellore in the matter of expansion of irrigation facilities. In 1923 a resolution moved by my hon. Colleague, Mr. A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu, for the extension of irrigation projects in the Nellore district was unanimously passed by this hon. House, the hon. the Law Member not objecting. But till now no attempt has been made in that direction. To add to the indignities or rather misfortunes, the Ceded District Irrigation Enquiry Committee and the Government have excluded Nellore district from the scope of the Tungabhadra project. The Government have not been generous enough to allow representation to Nellore district on that Committee. I raise my voice of protest against this attitude and strongly urge that the Government should take up both the projects, the Tungabhadra and Sangameswaram projects, together as advised by Mr Hawkins, the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, and that the Nellore district should on no account be excluded from that comprehensive scheme; and side by side with these, other projects must be examined and worked out even as protective schemes.

"Another matter to which I wish to invite the attention of the hon. the Law Member and also of the Ministers for Local Self-Government and Public Works Department is the bad condition of the roadway over the Pennar anicut at Nellore. At a place where a first-class bridge is a necessity, even a roadway has not been favoured. The very bad condition of the roadway has drawn the attention of the District Board and the Public Works Department in the district and when a modest estimate for Rs 40,000 was submitted to the Government for sanction, the Government turned it down. Is it because the Government have not realised the difficulties or is it because some noise in the form of artificial agitation has not been put up by the district, that that proposal has been turned down? Anyhow, the result is that the proposal has been turned down, and it is not going to be realised for some time more if things are left to go on in the same way. I earnestly appeal to all the three Members of the Government together to reconsider this question and provide for it even from the trunk road grants."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Will the hon. Member kindly bring his remarks to a close?"

The speaker resumed his seat.

* Mr. K. SITARAMA REDDI :—"Sir, this is the sixth budget after the Reforms; year after year we have been hearing and participating in the discussions, and it is for this House and the country to judge what useful purpose if any has been served by these activities of this Legislative Council. Coming now to the budget figures, the hon. the Finance Member has taken credit for ordinary revenues for a sum which is about $7\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs less than the usual revenue figures of last year, and I suppose we cannot blame him for it. I may say he is probably rather optimistic, and in spite of this adverse circumstance, and with the vexed question of Excise policy staring in the face of our finances, he has programmed for a new scheme of expenditure costing about 75 and odd lakhs. I am not sure if I have to congratulate the hon. the Finance Member for this or the Members who are responsible for the selection of the new scheme of expenditure. There is in the memorandum supplied to us, thanks to the courtesy of the Finance Secretary, a list of

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works proposed to be undertaken in that new scheme of expenditure. I feel that dozens of these schemes need not be taken up at all, or at any rate preference should have been given to other schemes of a more pressing nature. I may refer for instance to the expenditure, which is legitimate, on village roads and communications. I find that not only new provision has not been made but I see that the provision which was made last year, though late in the year, has been omitted, advisedly I suppose. I am not sure what reasons actuated the hon. the Finance Member in omitting this allotment. I am afraid the claims of the villager in these days are neglected and I do not know how the villager is going to impress himself on the minds of the hon. the Finance Member or the Finance Committee who are responsible for these schemes of expenditure. I may cite another instance. These schemes should have been allowed to lie over, and preference should have been given to, for instance, the opening of more veterinary dispensaries which are a great necessity and the want of which is very keenly felt in the districts.

"Coming now to the usual expenditure, I see that in every item of administration there is increase provided for. For the General administration expenditure is estimated at about 6 lakhs more than in last year, for the Police about 4 lakhs, Education about 16 lakhs, Medicine about 9 lakhs, and Civil Works about 34 lakhs. I am afraid the hon. the Finance Member has not made out any case for increasing expenditure in other departments than probably in the case of Education. I know the increase is partly due to the incremental scales which have been recently given, and in the statement of the hon. Finance Member, he says that the increase cannot end this year or in the near future. These scales have already contributed to an increase of expenditure of about 14½ lakhs this year and they are going to contribute about 7½ lakhs next year, and the hon. the Finance Member does not know which year he is going to say that we have reached the average expenditure on account of the incremental scales of pay. If we go on at this rate, I do not know how we are going to adjust our finances to the needs of our expenditure.

"I have to offer one or two remarks in this connexion about the general administration of the province. I do not know what percentage of expenditure is incurred for collection purposes in other provinces, but I find from the administration report of the Madras Presidency that district administration alone, exclusive of the village establishments, costs about 13·6 per cent of the total expenditure, and including the village establishments it comes to about 27·9 per cent or so of the total collections. I know that the Member in charge will at once rise up and say that these establishments are not in charge of collection of revenue alone but are also in charge of other miscellaneous work for which they are not paid extra. But at the same time I may impress on the attention of the hon. Member in charge that there is room for further improvement in this matter and I hope, if necessary with the help of some of the non-official Members of this House, the question will be thoroughly examined.

"With regard to education I find some improvements have been made in the course of this year. I see among the new schemes of expenditure, a subordinate inspecting agency has been created and I have to congratulate the hon. the Minister for Education for this new innovation. I know as the President of the District Board of South Arcot so many aided schools are run

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which are not properly supervised and which require careful scrutiny and supervision by inspecting officers. I know, as matters stand at present, these inspecting officers are not capable of inspecting all the schools in a year, and I am glad the hon. the Minister for Education has succeeded in getting an allotment for this purpose for the next year. The Minister has again to be congratulated for increasing his quota of expenditure for primary education, but at the same time, I would impress on him the necessity for helping the aided schools and improving the condition of teacher-managers, and not on insisting on opening more local board schools. There is a tendency, in view of the fact that local board teachers are paid much more than what the aided school teachers get in the shape of grants, for the local board schools to squat upon places where aided schools now flourish. And I hope, as an inducement for aided education, the Minister will increase the prospects of these aided school teacher-managers, and that he will not allow the local boards to open more schools than are actually necessary. But in respect of secondary education under the head of grants to local bodies I have to submit that this year the allotment has been reduced from 9·45 lakhs to 9·17 and odd lakhs. The decrease is rather small, but I am not able to understand the policy which the Education Minister follows in regard to the distribution of grants to secondary schools. I am not sure if he encourages the net cost system in all the secondary schools. I may give an instance which has occurred in my district. I wanted a school to be opened at Vriddhachalam which as some hon. Members of this House may know, is about 30 miles from the nearest railway station and about the same distance from the nearest secondary school. There is absolutely no secondary school, or a high school opened by any Mission agency, and if any student of that locality has to go in for secondary education, he has to go to Chidambaram or Trichinopoly or Salem. Chidambaram is 30 miles, Salem 70 miles and Trichinopoly about 50 miles from Vriddhachalam. In this place there exists no secondary institution. And when the district board wanted to start it, the Government said 'No, we are not prepared to contribute any share of the expenditure which the district board may undertake'. I do not know what policy underlay this refusal, and I want to know the policy of the Government in this matter of secondary education.

"With regard to the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government I am glad he has provided a decent allotment of 2 lakhs of rupees for Indian medicine, and he is to be congratulated for that. I again see that in this matter, the metropolis is preferred to the rural areas. With regard to the rural areas, I know he has started some of the rural dispensaries, but at the same time I must bring to his notice that there are not very many institutions that are flourishing now. It is true most of the taluk boards have started these institutions, and after some time or other these die out, because I know the subsidies offered to them are very small and they are not encouraging to these young men who want to start life in an out-of-the-way place. So they do not stick on to these places and necessarily the taluk boards have sooner or later to close these dispensaries.

"And then, there is another problem which the hon. Minister for Local Self-Government has to tackle and that very early. There are the taluk headquarter institutions which are now supposed to be run partly with the help of Government contribution and partly with the local board monies. I say with the help of Government money because the

superior staff of these institutions is being paid with Government money. The local board subordinates, the peons, the midwives and menials are paid by respective taluk boards, as also the cost of medicines. But it is high time that these institutions are placed on a better basis and systematised, so that the whole institution may be run completely with the help of provincial funds. I know that this thing has been long in the air, and I do not know when the scheme will reach fruition.

"With regard to civil works, they have been described very nicely by the hon. the Finance Member as a service head of all departments, but there are some items which are not urgent. For instance, there is the scheme of quarters for district judges in some places. But these schemes can certainly afford to wait and other more urgent and important schemes could have been thought of for preference to satisfy more pressing needs.

(The hon. the Deputy President took the chair.)

"Before I close I wish to draw the attention of the hon. the Law Member that after all the question of the improvements to the Vadavar, Mettu Vaikkal and Veeranum tank have been proceeded with this year. I hope no difficulties will stand in the way of these works being started this year. These works are necessary for the proper upkeep of the district board roads. The Vadavar breach occurred in the year 1924 and this resulted in the breach of a bridge and when I asked the Government to contribute half the expense in this behalf they say they are not concerned with this because it is a drainage channel. The cause of the collapse of the bridge is the nature of the Vadavar sluice heads. Similarly arrangements for the surplus of the Veeranam tank are so shabby that they cause breaches in the district board roads and have caused reduction in the toll income. It is high time that the Government take up these works. There is already a rumour that owing to railway construction these works may be put off. I hope the hon. the Law Member will not countenance such proposals that may emanate from the district officers." 3-45 p.m.

*Mr G. RAMESWARA RAO:—"Sir, please permit me to remark that the achievements of the Local Self-Government Department have not been as numerous as they are stated to be. It is admitted on all hands, in theory that the village must be the unit of organization and must be the unit from which development must begin; the village is taken to be the basis of every development nowadays. In spite of that recognition, precious little has been done to give the necessary impetus for rural advancement. True it is that rural dispensaries have been introduced mainly in theory and to some extent in practice but very much remains to be done as yet. The question of rural education is a most important one. It has been stated over and over again that for the purpose of spreading education adequately far into the interior it is very necessary to give all encouragement to the aided institutions so that with the same amount of cost now incurred by the Government a larger number of institutions may be started for the spread of education far into the interior. Somehow or other that aspect of the question has not fallen well on the ears of the hon. the Minister for Education and I now hear an attempt has been made to give the powers of managing some of the schools to the village panchayats to be organized in the future. The idea is a laudable one but at the same time I might say that what was mentioned by me in the earlier days was nothing

very different from that. It will enable every village to have a school if in every village, a sort of village panchayat is organized. Subsequently a statutory status might be given to that institution as well and finally the village panchayat will be the sole body in charge of the school. Thus without increasing the financial burdens, four times the number of the present schools might be instituted in every district if only board schools are replaced by aided institutions, which are in no way inferior to board schools. I have worked out the figures for my own district and I have come to the conclusion that such a thing is possible if we do the thing in the right way. I once again place it before this House and the hon. Minister for Education for their consideration. As regards the question of village organization very often the question of finance is said to stand in the way. I suggested several methods of improving the rural finances and none of them seems to have been considered by the Government seriously. One thing that I have specially referred to in this connexion is the question of the unearned increment of the Government. Government gets abnormal incomes every year, and year after year they are getting merged in the provincial revenues. The increment may be in the form of penal assessment for encroachments into village-sites; or it may be by the cultivating tenants getting into the porambokes; or it may be tank bed cultivations without the previous permission of the Government; or it may be taking water from a source which is not usual without the previous permission of the departmental heads. All these things are taxable and are taxed with heavy penalties in practice. What I submit is that these are not to be taken as provincial revenues and Government have no right whatever to expect them as a matter of course and add them on to the general revenue. If any reason should prevail in preference to the unthinking custom, the benefit of these increments must be given to the village communities in accordance with the ancient custom. The villagers have at times to pay 10, 20 and sometimes 25 times the assessment as penalty when they infringe the rules either intentionally or unintentionally in the cases of encroachments indicated above. In such cases the benefit of the penalty should go to the villagers in common because all that was encroached upon or used without the technical sanction was to the detriment of the villagers concerned and not to the general public. The increments must, reasonably considered, necessarily go to the improvement of the finances of the villages because it is the village public that suffer and not the general public. Similarly the revenues of the forest department derived by the handing over of the forests to the village panchayat should be given to the village panchayats. The financial result of handing over the forest to the village panchayats is seen here. In the year ending 31st March 1924 Rs. 47,000 is the annual revenue as opposed to a net loss of Rs. 1,200 before. Therefore if the number of forests under the village panchayats is increased it is possible that Government would derive a net profit taking the negative as well as the positive aspects of the matter into consideration of over a lakh of rupees. They will be saving the maintenance charges that they will have to incur out of their pocket. From the answer given to my question last week I gather that the Government is making a profit of one lakh of rupees, in that way even now. I think this one lakh may well serve as a nucleus to the village panchayat fund. There are a number of ways of finding the Finance if the Government only means to do it. I would submit that this is a thing which the Transferred department should insist upon when dealing with the Finance Department. Coming to

the Development Department I see that nothing has been done to my district. The hon. Minister for Development was expected to come and he was asked to come. I don't know whether he will come at all.

A VOICE :—"In April."

* Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO :—"I am glad the hon. Minister for Development is having many tours, but not to my own district. I would like him to come there and see how my district is in need of development. It may be a matter of surprise to any Government, any responsible Government with sympathy to the people that within the last settlement period, i.e., during the last thirty years, out of seven lakhs ten thousand acres only five per cent has been occupied by ryots on patta. That district is pre-eminently agricultural in population. Seventy-eight per cent of the people are agriculturists and yet 5 per cent only of the assessed waste is occupied. Of the lands classed as wet only 45 per cent has been occupied. What does it show ? Neither the dry nor the wet land is claimed by the people with any amount of avidity. When you realize that agriculture is the most important occupation of the people even to the extent of 78 per cent, it is up to the Government to see how to better their status. It is regrettable to see that Government have not done anything in this respect. In this connexion, I must point out that the burden has to be shared by the hon. the Revenue Member and the hon. the Law Member. It is their duty to cater to the irrigational needs of the country. When we see only 45 per cent of the wet land has been occupied, it does not reflect much credit on the irrigation department, major or minor. I hope they will do something, Sir, soon to relieve the distress prevailing in this district. It is also intended by the hon. the Revenue Member to arrange for a resettlement of that district. The scheme report was published in the district gazette of 5th February 1925 and it shows that it is proposed to increase the wet assessment by 12½ per cent It is a pity, when there is such a deplorable state of irrigation facilities, when only 45 per cent of the assessed wet land has been occupied within the previous settlement period, when only 5 per cent of the dry area available has been brought under cultivation within a period of thirty years, when there is such a little demand for land and when 12¼ per cent of land obtained on darkhast is being relinquished annually, it is a thousand pities, I say, that the Government should think of enhancing the land revenue. It is a thing which an ordinary human mind cannot understand. Government have their own ideas and their own reasons. But how far they will stand the test of public scrutiny is a matter for deep meditation by the Government and the Board of Revenue. I hope that the Government would call for objections ; that they would fix a time for hearing them and then proceed further. I say they should keep all these settlements in suspense until the Land Revenue Bill is enacted. It is now four or five years since they commenced the correspondence on the subject with the Government of India. I hope the hon. the Revenue Member will say to the Government of India that the matter should be urgently disposed of because it has been hanging on for an inordinately long period. There is also another matter that I would commend to the attention of the Government, viz., whether it is worth while for them to proceed with the land revenue settlement in this district which has very little irrigation facilities. After all, what is it that the Government would get if the proposal is carried out ? The result will be that they will get Rs. 42,000. For the sake of this Rs. 42,000, the people of the whole district and the people of all the villages are to be placed in an embarrassing situation.

" Sir, coming to the question of the way in which the Criminal Tribes Act is administered, it has fallen to my lot to raise that question several times. I had the opportunity of speaking to the hon. Member in charge of the subject. He has given me the assurance that the matter will be considered when the change of rules is taken up. I was also told that he was considering the change of rules. As a matter of fact, the hon. Member has in answer to my question yesterday given expression to the sentiment that people possessing sheep and cattle are being booked under the Criminal Tribes Act, perhaps because they are habitual offenders. I will agree that if they are habitual offenders they might be booked. But the facts are otherwise. I am personally acquainted with a few of such cases. When I ask the divisional officers why they are so booked, I get no answer. When I made personal enquiries, it is said that it is because that some of them have relations 50 or 60 miles off who had been punished long long ago and not that they themselves committed the offence. If their relations are in the vicinity and if by marriage or other ways they have anything to do with the offenders, these people are also booked under the Criminal Tribes Act and made to go to the police station twice in the night, once at 10 p.m. and again at 4 a.m. They have to go a distance of four or five miles every time and come back to their place of residence only the next morning. The result is their cattle, their homestead, their crops and all which are left behind are stolen or otherwise damaged by people who are cleverer criminals than themselves. They lose their means of livelihood, and are driven to acts of criminality even by the Government who are anxious about their betterment. Therefore, Sir, I would submit for the consideration of the hon. the Home Member all these facts for a detailed examination of the way in which the Criminal Tribes Act is being administered. It is very right to say that for the sake of the commonweal some will have to put up with some sort of hardship. Justice is built on two pillars. 'The first elementary principle of jurisprudence is that no man shall undeservedly suffer and no man is to be wronged.' The second is 'that good be done to all, if possible'. But here in the name of the common good, all men are being harassed merely because they are born in a caste. They may be absolutely innocent, but in the name of the interests of the country some of these poor people are being handled cruelly in this fashion without consideration of their antecedents or their character.

" Coming to the hon. the Law Member, I have one or two points to say. The first thing is that mentioned by Mr. Krishnan Nayar as regards the 4 p.m. Pondicherry affair. The hon. the Law Member has been pleased to say that the British Government is not in league with the French Government and is not a party to having us registered and to compelling us to give finger-prints of all our ten fingers and our palms. I wish it were so. At the same time, as a responsible hon. Member of this House has been treated in that way, I would request that some more investigation should be made before giving an answer on the floor of this House that this Government had nothing to do with it. It might be that the Government as such might be unaware of the fact and it might be the pious wish of the hon. the Law Member. But the Government has too many hands and too many legs, and they do not know what leg trampled upon what person and what cruel hand was laid on what innocent heart. Therefore, I would like the hon. the Law Member to issue proper instructions to see that neither in the name of the Government nor in the name of the department no Member of this House or any other honest citizen who goes to Pondicherry to see some friends of his is molested in that

fashion. I am sure there are some sub-inspectors of the British force there, who ought to know something about the affair. I wish the hon. the Law Member would take us more into his confidence though it be the result of the activities of C.I.D. officials, and he should find out and tell us how this thing happened and how it could be avoided. I thought it was the birth-right of every British citizen to go to any part of a foreign empire without being put to the indignity and necessity of giving his finger-prints and palm photos.

" The next point requiring some remarks is the question of the Administration Report of the Police Department. It was once raised in a debate here that the Commissioner of Police for the City of Madras made some remarks about party politics, about parties, about the party in power, parties rising in power, and parties declining in power. At that time, it was also pointed out that the same report contained a more objectionable feature and that is as you, Mr. Deputy President, know fully well, the paragraph devoted to political activities in the province. Gentlemen like the Rt. Hon. V. Srinivasa Sastri, Mahatma Gandhi, Mr. C. R. Das and Mr. S. Srinivasa Ayyangar are included in the chapter which gives the statistics of crime. (Laughter.) I asked the hon. the Law Member yesterday a question as to why it was so, and he was pleased to say that it was a matter within the province of the Commissioner of Police. I thought the hon. Member would say, instead of saying that it was a matter for which he was not personally responsible, that he would look into it. At the same time, I think it is up to the Government to find out whether political leaders, like Mahatma Gandhi, ought not to be distinguished from the criminals included in those statistics.

" There is only one other matter and that is about the question of punitive police. We have been told,—at any rate I have been able to see from the budget,—that there is no allotment for punitive police. I am glad that the justice of the citizens has been vindicated and I am glad that a slur on the people has been removed from the face of the Madras Presidency. But there is one point. If I remember right, the question was raised on an earlier occasion as to whether the Government should bear any portion of the cost and if so in what proportion, and seeing that the punitive police should no longer continue I commend to the Government the idea of completely relieving the people of all burden on this account.

" With these few remarks, I would request the hon. the Law Member to consider the matter more closely and take the people into his confidence before taking any drastic or harsh measures, if ever any such occasion arise in the future.

* Khan Bahadur V. HAMID SULTAN MARAKKAYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, the most striking feature about the budget for 1926-27 is that it is a deficit one But a deficit budget cannot be unsatisfactory if the deficit is the result of causes, which are beyond human control. The present budget, though a deficit one, is also an honest one, as no attempt is made in it to conceal facts from us. Hence we cannot well blame the hon. the Finance Member for having presented to this Council a deficit budget for 1926-27. I therefore sympathize with the difficulties of the hon. the Finance Member in preparing this budget, but at the same time, I cannot help feeling that this province is rather unfortunate in being faced this year also with a deficit budget.

"Now, the only reasonable way in which this deficit can be met is by retrenchment in the proper direction. By proper retrenchment, I mean, not the reduction of a number of clerks or peons or constables; but the retrenchment must be in higher quarters. For instance, there are a number of officers, such as the Deputy Inspectors-General of Police, Conservators of Forest, Superintending Engineers, and the like. Such officers may very well be abolished. Excepting this method of financial salvation for this province, additional taxation cannot be thought of. In fact, this province is the most heavily taxed of all the provinces, and the country is not in a position to pay any more taxes. Year after year, some district or other, in this province, is affected by adverse seasons or floods. Last year, unprecedented floods have produced devastations in the country. This year, enormous damage has been done to the harvest, owing to recent heavy rains, in districts like Tanjore, Trichinopoly and South Arcot. Consequently, the mirasidars are ruined, and the people are threatened with famine. I hope that the hon. the Revenue Member who understands the famine conditions very well will give us timely remissions, enter into the feelings of the people and grant them relief when they are badly in need of the same.

"Coming to the budget, let me say a few words that concern my community. I believe, Sir, it is admitted on all hands that the Muhammadan community of this Presidency as compared with other sister communities is backward in education. And, education now imparted to Muhammadans cannot be said to be satisfactory so long as the present system of education confines itself to the secular side alone. I therefore appeal to Government to make arrangements for imparting moral and religious instruction in Muhammadan schools, side by side with secular instruction and to award more free scholarships to poor Muhammadans, to enable them to educate themselves, as the present number of scholarships is inadequate to meet the needs of the community. I hope that enough funds would be placed at the disposal of the hon. the Minister for Education for expenditure in this direction.

"In the Local Self-Government department administered by the hon. the Chief Minister, the local bodies have not only secured greater freedom but have also received substantial assistance in the matter of stabilising their finances. Communications, medical aid and public health have not escaped his attention. Yet, much more remains to be done in these directions. The need of the villagers is the provision for a good water-supply and the maintenance of good village roads No doubt Government now make large grants to district boards for maintenance of trunk roads and second-class roads. I wish that some grant is made in aid of village roads also, in order to connect the villages with the nearest trunk roads. As regards village water-supply, it is necessary that sufficient provision should be made in the budget for grants to local bodies for the purpose of sinking wells in villages. I would also suggest that Government should transfer public buildings and minor irrigation to the control of the Local Self-Government department, so that the District Board Engineer and his staff may attend to such works as there is not much work for them in their respective departments. As a measure of economy, this experiment may be tried."

*Sir ALEXANDER MACDOUGALL:—"Mr. President, it seems to me, as the House is very thin and especially as more speakers are not coming forward,

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that the House is getting tired of the Budget debate and the Members would like to go home. I would like to make some remarks on an occasion like the present Budget session, and I may begin with a note of congratulation to the hon. the Finance Member on the courageous manner in which he has conceived the next year's Budget. From the savings and short expenditure of the current year, he hopes to end the year with a favourable balance, and next year he hopes that there will be an increase in revenue of Rs. 17 lakhs. Now many people in his position would have been content with the hope, on that assurance, that next year the Budget will close with a possible surplus. Instead of that, however, the hon. the Finance Member being made of slightly stronger stuff than most of us had the courage to budget for a deficit of Rs. 76 lakhs. If he had been like many of us, he would have told the spending departments, 'Look here, gentlemen. The financial state of the Presidency is such that I cannot afford to find money for any new schemes It is my aim to have a surplus, and, if you want money for any new schemes, you must carry them through with money saved from your present allotments.' But the Finance Member had the courage to place his confidence in the people and the potentialities of this Presidency, and he went forward in giving money, to a number of new schemes, and his courage has been rewarded to a certain extent by the remission of Rs. 57 lakhs in our provincial contribution that we have been promised from Delhi I sincerely trust that the Madras Members in the Legislative Assembly will see to it that the Finance Member of the Legislative Assembly is not compelled to fritter away that Rs 57 lakhs in less worthy schemes.

"Turning to the Budget itself, one would like to roam over the whole field and criticize, as some endeavour was made this morning, each Member of the Government, beginning from the hon. the Law Member down to the hon the Minister for Development. I do not, however, intend to do that. One remark, however, that I would like to make is in reference to the decrease in excise revenue. That decrease, I have no doubt, will please every part in the House with the exception of the hon. the Finance Member. Those in favour of prohibition in this House will no doubt pat themselves on the back and say that this decrease is a result of their propaganda, while the hon. the Minister for Excise, on the other hand, will claim that it is a vindication of the policy of the Government. Others may attribute it to the poverty of the people and say that the people having no money had to drink less. I however trust that it is not due to an increase in illicit trade, which is certainly foreshadowed in the Finance Member's speech in drawing our attention to the increased expenditure in carrying out this particular policy by way of a preventive staff.

"Industries, when I was in this Council before, used to be my favourite topic, as I flatter myself I know a little about industry. I am very pleased to observe from the Budget that industries are to receive a considerably large sum. My hon. Friend, the Minister for Development, does not seek to spend this amount in the institution of new industries or new institutes. He is quite content to carry on those legacies that were left by the late Ministers, and spend the money he gets for the coming year mostly in a very good direction, and that is the encouragement of industrial schools. He also proposes to spend a considerable amount in pumping and boring plant. That, I believe, is the most profitable branch of the whole Department of Industries, which this Government has. Such a step will have a really good effect on the country and towards the prosperity of the people, who can get assistance

from this particular department at very cheap rates, and the department, so far as I understand, is particularly efficient in that direction. There are one or two institutes which are run by my hon. Friend the Minister for Development and which I would like to see cut out. But I leave it to another Member of the Cabinet, if it is possible to persuade him, so that with that money he can do the country a better service. I welcome the increased grant to the Medical Department and Public Health. I am glad to note that in the Medical Department money is going to be spent on new hospitals and on additional equipment and establishments. I am also gratified to note that the Public Health Department is getting increased grant which will be used in increasing the staff of health officers, etc. This department is doing wonderful work in various parts of the Presidency. I regret, Sir, that the Minister for Local Self-Government has not seen fit to budget a little more money for the purpose of public health propaganda. Prevention, we are told, is always better than cure, and it is much better to prevent disease, by spending possibly less on the prevention, than spending more on the cure of the disease. For three years, a non-official body has been working towards this end and has achieved wonderful success in the Presidency. That body consisted of practically honorary workers and the demands on their labours have been extraordinary. This year they have overspent the sum allotted to them. I have no doubt that next year the Minister for Local Self-Government will see that the funds at their disposal are increased which will in turn extend the scope of their work. The Government will have to pay an officer for this particular purpose. In the United Provinces, I understand this department has been spending one and a half lakhs on public health propaganda work. It is admitted that the majority of the people of this country are poor, uneducated, ignorant in the ways of health, etc., and require to be educated into the first duties of doing good to themselves. It is all well to spend money on research colleges, schools for tropical diseases, etc. But what is the result of these inquiries and researches to the people? It is quite useless to spend money on them. Public health propaganda has to be carried on in a particular way, in a way that will appeal to the people. That can be done in Madras. We have got the men to carry on the work, men who can understand and do the work. But what we do want in this Presidency is whole-time officers with special assistants in the line. I trust that during the year the hon the Minister for Local Self-Government will see to it that he is a little more liberal in his grants, and I may just whisper in his ears that if he has a real heart to heart talk with his Friend the Minister for Development and induce that Minister to close the Fruit Preserving Institute at Coonoor, to close one or other of the institutes which neither give profit nor pleasure—it may be a pleasure to a few, but certainly not to the Finance Member who has got to pay for such concerns—if he can only persuade him to divert the money to the other concern, I am sure the benefit to the public will be very very great indeed.

4-15 p.m.

"There is just one other point that I should like to advert to, that is the proposed new works. I would really ask the Government if new schemes for buildings, etc., are placed before them for consideration, they should to a certain extent hasten slowly. We have had instances, not so very long ago, when hastily conceived schemes have been started, money has been spent on them, and the schemes have been finally dropped and much cheaper ones substituted. I trust that in the coming year, if money is going to be spent

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on any scheme, if the scheme is worthy of the money it will be carried out, otherwise not. That is my suggestion."

* Mr. V. C. VELLINGIRI GOUNDER:—"It is very unfortunate to see deficit budgets every year. The tendency of the Government is to multiply expenditure in several directions, and to create departments and then to find work for them. We find that very large expenditure is incurred in several departments. I will take first the Forest department. In that department, development work has taken many directions. New sections have been added, as forest engineering, forest utilization and exploitation schemes and such other things. Excepting in very rare instances, we find almost all these schemes are proving failures. If at all any profit is shown in the reports, it may be set down to the ingenuity of the officers concerned. We have the Russellkonda saw mill, we have the Mount Stuart, we have the Chenat Nair, and we have some other schemes also. In all these we find only a few thousands as profit and in one or two great losses. When we study the receipt and expenditure of these schemes, we find the largest income is derived from the sale of produce or from private agencies. The income from the Government agency is very little compared to the charges incurred on account of development. These schemes when they were started were not properly investigated and the markets were not studied. We find that the reason stated for not getting proper revenue is that the market is not favourable. It is due to too much production. Too much production means not only waste of establishment but waste of material also. All this can very well be avoided if proper investigation had been made before they were started. On Chenat Nair a very large amount is going to be thrown away. As for Russellkonda, though I am far away from it yet from what I have heard, they cannot sell the timber. Why should they devastate the forests and then put the timber on the market and find no sales? It is devastating the resources of the country. The market should be found before they produce a thing. Government have got the monopoly of this forest produce and it is their business to find out whether a market can be had for it or not. Then they employ machinery to extract timber. That is a policy which cannot be condemned too strongly. In Chenat Nair any amount of labour can be procured by means of elephants where elephants cost little. They have the elephants, they have the means of feeding them. What do they do? They get down machinery costing 20 and 40 thousands and spend large amounts on their repairs and in addition maintain a regular establishment to attend to such repairs. I do not know why Chenat Nair has not been worked on a commercial basis. I know that if Chenat Nair has been worked as a commercial concern, it would prove a huge loss. It seems that just to cover such losses they have the Olavakode saw mill combined in the scheme.

"With regard to forest panchayats, I quite welcome the arrangements Government have undertaken so far. But they are not giving proper encouragement and proper help to the development of these panchayats.

"In certain areas they have promised certain concessions to the ryots in the shape of rewards, but even when the ryots applied for such rewards, they have not been paid at all. In a particular instance I took personal interest in a matter and wrote several letters but even then the ryots have not been able to get the refund promised to the panchayatdars for the past several years. So much so they feel it very difficult to get on with their undertakings. If such things are not properly done and in time, then a day will come when the panchayats will be misusing their powers and will not be 4-30 p.m.

working properly. If proper encouragement is not given and sympathy not shown to this, body of people, they will find their time very hard.

"With regard to Abkari, I wish to say a few words. There are so many policies laid down with regard to excise, such as. maximum revenue and minimum consumption and in addition there is the Government of India's policy on an elaborate scale. I wish to ask the hon. the Minister for Excise if these policies have proved beneficial to the country. I want a straight answer to this question. The hon. Minister has five years' experience of the excise administration and he has had enough material and evidence before him in regard to this matter and he has also the elaborate information gathered from all parts of the Presidency and even from all parts of the world. We want to know in what direction he has in any way improved the situation that is threatening the welfare of the country. In all his speeches he has not hitherto given us his own observations and his own ideas as to how he is going to eradicate this drink evil. He listens to all that we say but thinks that all our suggestions for improving the situation are impracticable or impossible. He invariably gives some such excuse and postpones giving his own opinion in the matter. So far as I have been able to see from the answers which the hon. Minister has been giving us from the outset and from the answers which he gave us on the last occasion, I do not find any definite policy which he is going to formulate to get rid of this evil. If he is earnest in making any attempt, I would request him to launch a definite and bold policy for adoption at least during the current year.

"With regard to agriculture, I wish to say a few words. I find from the provision made in the budget that a large sum is allotted for the Hosur cattle farm. We were told that the buildings already in existence there would accommodate thousands of cattle and yet the cost of the land itself with the buildings thereon cost nearly 3 lakhs. And, there is going to be a further expenditure on it of about Rs. 30,000 or 40,000. I do not know what is the hurry for incurring such a heavy expenditure on that scheme. I do not see the necessity for a costly dairy farm at the Hosur depot. In order to help the ryot we do not want these costly schemes. What we want is enough provision for grazing, fodder, manures, cheap credit and development of irrigation. These are the things which are essential. I would request the hon. Minister for Development to see that enough provision is made for these things, for, these alone give immediate benefit to the ryots. No doubt he has initiated a scheme of land mortgage banks. But that is a very poor solution. Unless we have a liberal scheme and a large amount of money, it would not be of much use. As observed by my hon. Friend, Mr. Adinarayana Chettiyar, at the rate at which the co-operative societies are progressing in the matter of giving relief to the ryots, it will take about 150 years before the ryots are relieved of their indebtedness. God knows what will be the condition of the ryot at this rate of progress under the reformed Government, even though it is accepted on all hands that the condition of the ryot requires immediate help.

"We want suitable machinery for agriculture. We have the agricultural engineer and I find a very small provision of Rs. 2,000 made for the agricultural workshop. The engineer is paid about Rs. 600 or 700 and a big staff would be there to maintain the dignity of his office. But what work is given to this officer? What facilities are provided to utilize his special line of work? There is nothing of that kind. His work seems to be in looking after certain machinery on the central farm which work can be

done by ordinary supervisors or mechanics of the department. For want of an up-to-date workshop, his valuable services are being lost every year to the country. Nothing good comes out of such policies like this. We have heard that agricultural machinery has been developed to a great extent in other countries. Here, in our country, such valuable and useful developments are yet to begin while Government profess they are spending lakhs and lakhs.

"Coming again to co-operation I wish to say that if co-operation is at all to be developed, it should be entrusted to non-officials. Desire to have societies should come from people below and not from official and others from above. As it is, so far as I have been able to observe, societies are thrust upon people because the registrars, paid, honorary, etc., appointed for it have to show that they started so many societies. That is why we are having the spectacle of so many concerns going into liquidation. As observed by one of my hon. Friends, the co-operative movement is not doing sound work.

"About public health I wish to say a few words. What we are having in the Public Health department is a few sanitary overseers scattered over the district and what they are doing is this: if there is an epidemic case in their locality, give out any amount of advice in the way they were taught in school as to disinfect the locality, put some powder in the wells, prepare and write nice report to his superior and be satisfied that they have done their duty.

"I welcome the budget in one respect. There is a comparatively large provision made in it for minor irrigation. Minor irrigation goes a longway for the development of the country. I am not for having such big and costly schemes as the one at Mettur. We find that after spending huge sums of money on it, the progress so far has not been satisfactory. The site has not been fixed yet and the survey work is going on with numerous experts. After all, the country which has been suffering from famine and from periodical scarcity of fodder is not going to be benefited and is continuing to suffer like that and the whole resource of the Presidency is going to be spent for the benefit of a particular tract which is already being served by major irrigation works. No doubt, we are told that our position will also be considered. I request the hon. Member for Irrigation to consider such schemes as will benefit those tracts which are suffering from periodical scarcity of rain and water.

"Now, Sir, with regard to education I wish to say a few words. I am speaking only about village education. We have any number of supervising advising authorities such as inspectorates, secondary education boards, district educational councils, etc. But all these cannot solve the problem of village education. Now, the progress or even the existence of village education is only seen in the administration report as so many schools opened and so much work done. All this will be nice to read, but when we come to the actual position in the village, we find that the condition, the standard and the quality and quantity of education has become very poor. Therefore what is necessary is adequate funds and an efficient supervising staff. I would request that in all village schools a few acres of land may be added for imparting to the pupils, agricultural education also. The agricultural education which is proposed at present to be imparted in higher classes will do no good at all. If only agricultural teaching is given by providing lands of a sufficient extent to each of these village schools, it will encourage the boys

[Mr. V. C. Vellingiri Gounder] [4th March 1926

of the ryots and create in them enthusiasm for acquiring an elementary knowledge of agricultural education.

" Sir, I wish to say a few words about the Royal Commission on Agriculture which is proposed to be appointed. I want to know whether the Government of Madras in their report have strongly recommended to the Commis-

4-45 p.m. sion the necessity for relieving the indebtedness of the ryot. Without solving the problem of relieving the indebtedness of the ryot, all attempts at improving the agricultural condition of the country by the introduction of improved and scientific methods of the west would be of no use. We do not want the scientific training by people coming from western countries; what we want is credit facilities and that can be had locally. The Government of Madras can easily come to the rescue of the ryot."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Will the hon. Member please finish soon?"

* Mr V. C. VELLINGIRI GOUNDER:—" Yes, Sir. With regard to the schemes for hydro-electric development, I want to bring to the notice of the hon. the Law Member that he seems to be more interested in the application of electricity to industries and railways rather than to agriculture. It is equally necessary that electricity should be applied to agriculture also. I hope the hon. the Law Member will keep this in mind when he gives contracts or monopolies for the consumption or distribution of the current. A large portion of the central districts of our Presidency is under well-irrigation Cheap electric power will be of much use to those areas. I am glad to note that the Chief Engineer Mr. Hawkins has made some investigations in this connexion.

" Again, Sir, the budget for stationery has not gone down in spite of the fact that a large quantity of literature which was supplied to us in previous years had been stopped now. I do not know by what order it has been done. We, representatives of the people, want to know every information connected with the administration. Unless we are supplied with all the papers, we will not be in a position to know the details of administration. We are now asked to apply for it. It is a very hard job for us to apply for papers and get them. Under the system of the Reformed Government, the representatives of the people who are asked to co-operate with the Government in their work should be supplied with all these papers In so many other directions the representatives of the people have to find fault with the Government. In the departments of Local Self-Government and Abkari the Government non-co-operate with the people. It is this non-co-operation of the Government with the people that has brought in the failure of so many schemes and produced so many factions in the Local Self-Government. The Government want that there should be factions in connexion with their Abkari administration; otherwise they by their methods create them. We want the hearty co-operation of the Government with the people. Without that there would ever be an increase of expenditure in Jails, Police and there would be more litigation. I appeal for a more hearty co-operation of the Government with the people. Otherwise the country will suffer and a time will soon arrive when the Government will be most unpopular. Ultimately worst results will follow."

The House adjourned at 4-50 p.m. to meet at 11 o'clock on Friday, the 5th March 1926.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, the 5th March 1926.

The House met at 11 o'clock, with Mr. President (the hon. Mr. M. RUTHNASWAMY, M.A., Bar.-at-Law) in the chair.

PRESENT:

Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E., The hon. Sir C.P.
Marjoribanks, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. N. E.
Usman Sahib Bahadur, The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad.
Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. T. E.
Raja of Panagal, The hon. the.
Patro, *Kt.*, The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Sivagnanam Pillai, The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N.
Abbas Ali Khan, Mr.
Abdul Hye Sahib, Mr.
Abdulla Ghatala Sahib, Mr.
Adinarayana Chettiyar, Mr. T.
Anjaneyulu, Mr. P.
Ari Godwer, Mr. H. B.
Arpudaswami Udayar, Mr. S.
Arumuga Nadar, Mr. P. K. S. A.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.
Biswanath Das Mahasayo, Sriman.
Boag, Mr. G. T.
Chidambara Nadar, Mr. A.
Cruz Fernandez, Rao Bahadur.
Davis, Mr. J. A.
Devendrudu, Mr. N.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Sahib S.
Ethirajulu Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur P. C.
Evans, C.S.I., Mr. F. B.
Ghouse Mian Sahib, Mr. Muhammad.
Gopala Menon, Mr. C.
Gopalan, Rao Sahib P. V.
Guruswami, Mr. L. C.
Haji Qasim Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Haji Abd-ul-lah.
Hegde, Mr. Naganna.
Heggade, Mr. D. Manjayya.
Kesava Pillai, C.I.E., Diwan Bahadur P.
Khadir Mohiddin Elyas Khan Sahib, Mr.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Krishna Rao Pantulu, Rao Bahadur A. S.
Krishnaswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur K.
MacDougall, *Kt.*, Sir Alexander,
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Madhava Raja, Mr. V.
Madurai, Honorary Lieutenant.
Marakkayar Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur V. Hamid Sultan.
Marthandam Pillai, Mr. P. N.
Maruthavanam Pillai, Mr. C.
Moidu Sahib, Mr. T. M.
Muhammad Sahib Mr. T. N.
Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. C.
Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. S.
Muttu Chettiyar, Mr. P. C.
Narasimha Raju, Rao Bahadur C. V. S.
Narayanan Nambudiripad, Rao Bahadur O. M.
Narayanaswami Pillai, Mr. T. M.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Noyce, C.S.I., C.B.E., I.C.S., Mr. F.
Obalesappa, Mr. B.
Pandrang Row, Mr. V.
Pantulu Ayyar, Mr. V.
Peddiraju, Mr. P.
Prabhakaran Tampan, Mr. K.
Raja, Rao Bahadur M. C.
Raja of Ramnad.
Rajan, Mr. P. T.
Ramachandra Reddi, Mr. B.
Raman, Rao Bahadur P.
Ramalinga Reddi, Mr. C.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Sagaram, Mr. P.
Saldanha, Mr. J. A.
Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Sarabha Reddi, Mr. K.
Sarvarayudu, Mr. K.
Sasibhushan Rath Mahasayo, Sriman.
Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Seturatnam Ayyar, Mr. M. R.
Sitarama Reddi, Mr. K.
Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. R.
Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subramania Pillai, Mr. K. Chavadi.
Sundaramurti, Rao Sahib P. V. S.
Suryanarayanamurti Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur K.
Tangavelu Pillai, Rao Sahib T. C.
Uppi Sahib, Mr. K.
Veerian, Mr. R.
Vellingiri Gounder, Mr. V. C.
Venkatachala Padayachi, Mr. K.
Venkatapati Razu, Mr. P. C.
Venkataramana Ayyangar, Mr. C. V.
Venkatarangam Nayudu, Mr. C.
Venkataratnam, Mr. B.
Venkatareddi Nayudu, *Kt.*, Rai Bahadur Sir K.
Wood, Mr. C. E.

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I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No.* 15 *on the 4th December* 1924—

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The Secretary shall call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Civil Justice.

Maundy Thursday as a public holiday.

*1528 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what orders have been passed on the resolution of the Council, that Maundy Thursday be declared as sectional holiday for Roman Catholic employees in Civil Courts and the penultimate Saturday a holiday for all Civil Courts;

(*b*) whether Government have received any complaints from any Protestant or Indian Christians about the conferring of the Maundy Thursday holiday on only Roman Catholics; and

(*c*) whether Government have decided to extend the holiday in question to all Christians?

A.—(*a*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to G.O. No. 3327, Law (General), dated the 3rd November 1925, placed on the Editors' Table.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) No.

Restoration of Easter Holidays to mufassal Civil Courts

*1528-A *Q.*—Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the Government are considering the restoration of the Easter Holidays at their full length to the mufassal Civil Courts?

A.—No.

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"May I ask the hon. the Law Member to state whether the Government have received any recommendations regarding the restoration of the holidays?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Yes, Sir. The High Court has considered those recommendations."

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Irrigation.

Proposals for storing water by the ryots of Odagathur valley.

*1529 Q.—Mr. V. PANTULU AYYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Chief Engineer for Irrigation received any memorial from the ryots of Odagathur valley of Vellore taluk, North Arcot district, submitting to the consideration of Government certain proposals to effect storage of water for the benefit of some of the villages in the said taluk;

(b) what action the Government have taken or propose to take upon the memorial; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the same?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) The Government await the report which has been called for from the Superintending Engineer.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"With reference to the answer to clause (a) may I know whether the mahazar has been sent to the Superintending Engineer?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Yes, Sir."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—"May I ask the hon. the Law Member whether he remembers that a deputation also waited upon him recently about the same matter?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I do, Sir. I had the honour of a visit from the hon. Member who has spoken."

Transport of grains by boats in Pamaniyar and Koraiyar.

*1530 Q.—Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state why for the last three years or thereabouts the Public Works Department authorities have prevented transport of paddy and grains by boats by merchants and mirasidars in the Pamaniyar and Koraiyar in the Tanjore district, which have practically been the only means of transport practicable in and around Muttupet owing to want of proper road communication?

A.—The Government have no information but have called for a report from the Chief Engineer.

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR:—"In view of the answer to the question, may I bring to the notice of the hon. the Law Member that I have information that the authorities refused to give permission and may I ask whether, after the receipt of the information, he will be pleased to issue orders that what was done three years ago ought not to be prohibited especially as it would be a great disadvantage?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I do not think I have any information just now which will enable me to take such action as is proposed by the hon. Member from Tanjore. If he will meet me in the course of the day or to-morrow and explain matters to me, I shall take such action as I consider necessary."

Construction of a dam at Kilikudu.

*1531 *Q.*—Mr. S. Muttayya Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the Government have finally decided to build a dam at Kilikudu?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1477.

Panchayat Courts.

Inspection of Panchayat Courts.

*1532 *Q.*—Mr. D. Manjayya Heggade: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the authorities that inspect periodically or occasionally the Panchayat Courts?

A.—Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars.

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—"May I know whether the Government have made any arrangements by which they can ascertain how far these officers inspect the Panchayat Courts either periodically or occasionally?"

The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar:—"If the hon. Member has any particular district in mind I shall be glad to obtain the information."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—"May I know whether the Collectors send any reports?"

The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar:—"They do, Sir."

Mr. R. Veerian:—"May I know from the hon. the Law Member whether the Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars have, during their periodical inspections, found out whether members of the depressed classes are having free access to these Panchayat Courts?"

The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar:—"I do not know whether they have done so till now. But the strenuous endeavours made by the hon. Member who has just spoken, undoubtedly force themselves so much upon the attention of the Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars that I have no doubt that they will pay attention to that matter."

Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi:—"May I ask whether the inspecting authorities send any reports of their inspection?"

The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar:—"Yes, Sir."

Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi:—"May I know whether a column in respect to the question of the appointment of members of the depressed classes, will be inserted in the reports?"

The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar:—"I can only say now that I will consider that suggestion."

Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar:—"May I know whether the Revenue Divisional Officers inspect these courts?"

The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar:—"They are not prevented from doing so."

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Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar :—" May I know whether there are any courts in the province which are inspected by the Revenue Divisional Officers ? "

The hon. the President :—" That is a separate question."

Government Servants' Conduct Rules.

Rules governing the conduct of Government servants.

* 1533 Q.—Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government servants under the Transferred departments also are bound by rules governing the conduct of Government servants ;

(b) whether they can attend conferences convened by the politicians of the Ministerialist school of politics ; and

(c) how many Government servants attended the All-India Non-Brahman Congress at Amraoti and the Liberal Confederation at Madras held in last December ; and their names and their offices ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The extent to which Government servants may take part in political meetings is governed by rules 22 and 23 of the rules for the conduct of Government servants.

(c) The Government are not aware that any Government servant attended the meetings referred to.

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar :—" May I know whether the hon. Member is aware that Mr. C. D. Nayagam, Deputy Registrar, Vellore, was one of these gentlemen who attended the conference ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks :—" I am not aware, Sir."

Sriman Sasibhushan Rath Mahasayo :—" May I know whether the Government made any attempts to ascertain whether any Government servants attended the conference ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks :—" We examined the reports that appeared in the papers and we found no names of Government servants in them."

The Raja of Ramnad :—" May I ask the hon. Member who put the original question whether he asked the question on any information or on only mere surmise about the Government officials attending the All-India Non-Brahman Conference ? "

Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar :—" May I know whether such questions can be asked ? It is presumed that the hon. Members take the responsibility and if there is any doubt about it, your office asks us on your orders whether we take the responsibility for putting such questions ; and we generally say on what circumstances we do so. Such being the case, I request your ruling, Sir, whether such questions can be put by one Member to another Member. Perhaps the next question will be how much responsibility we take."

The hon. the President :—" The Raja of Ramnad does not question the bonafides of the questioner. He only wants to elicit information."

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Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know whether such questions as 'on what information did the Member put the question' can be asked? I am only raising the general point whether one hon. Member of this House can ask another hon. Member as to the source of the information for putting a question."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" May I submit in reply to the point of order raised that it is only in cases of serious allegations against an officer personally, any such undertaking is asked? I am asking information whether the hon. Member is aware of any person having gone there or whether it is a surmise that somebody must have gone there. I submit there is no point of order."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" I agree with the hon. Member Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar that I am not bound to answer the question asked by the hon. Member, the Raja of Ramnad. But I may say I have information that a number of Government servants visited the conference and that the particular officer whom I mentioned travelled in the special train which carried the Ministerialists to Amraoti and that he did attend one of those two conferences?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" May I know from the hon. Member whether he is definitely informed that the person referred to attended one of the two conferences?"

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Sir, the question is about the conduct of a Government servant. It is immaterial to me whether he attended one conference or two conferences."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May we have your ruling, Sir? We may be guided by your ruling whether such questions can be asked."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" If a question is asked about the bonafides of the questioner it is certainly out of order. If it is to elicit information I do not see what objection there is to it."

Land Revenue.

Remission of valuation of trees on darkhast lands assigned to depressed classes.

*1534 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that remission of tree valuation may be made while assigning to the members of the depressed classes such darkhast lands on which trees are grown;

(b) whether this concession is shown in the case of depressed classes alone or for others also;

(c) whether there is any Government Order making a remission of tree value on darkhast lands assigned to the depressed classes compulsory;

(d) if so, whether they will be pleased to lay a copy of the Government Order on the Council table; and

(e) why tree valuation is now being demanded by the Deputy Tahsildar of Denkanikota, Salem district, in his order Nos. L. Dis. 311 C. and D. of 1924 and L. Dis. 444/C. and D. of 1925 from one Adi-Dravida Mara, son of Mara, residing in Urigam village, Hosur taluk, Salem district?

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A.—(*a*) Yes, in cases of poverty and subject to certain limits which vary according to sanctioning authority.

(*b*) No distinction is made between depressed classes and others.

(*c*) & (*d*) No. The remission is left to the discretion of the local revenue officers.

(*e*) The Government are not aware of the facts of the case referred to.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" With reference to the answer to clause (*a*) 'in cases of poverty and subject to certain limits which vary according to sanctioning authority' may I know what are those limits ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I am afraid I must ask for notice. A Tahsildar can sanction up to a certain sum, a Divisional Officer up to a certain higher sum. I do not know what exactly are the limits. Will the hon. Member put a fresh question ? "

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know whether the Government do not think it advisable to make general exemptions in the case of depressed classes, whenever the tree valuation does not exceed Rs. 50 or some such amount ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" No, Sir."

Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—" Having regard to the general poverty of the depressed classes, will the Government be pleased to examine the question whether the rules can be modified that in the case of depressed classes (Mr. R. Veerian : Hear, hear) the tree valuation need not be collected until they are in a position to pay the valuation ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I have no objection to have that question examined if it has not been examined already."

Assignment of lands to Adi-Dravidas of Nadupatti village.

* 1535 *Q.*—Mr. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware that about seventy Adi-Dravida families in the village of Nadupatti, Omalur taluk, Salem district, are without any land of their own for cultivation ;

(*b*) whether any steps were taken on the petition submitted by them during the month of January 1926 to the District Collector, Salem, praying for assignments of lands which adjoin the reserve forest in their village on darkhast ; and

(*c*) why the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, Routine No. 1187, Press, dated 5th March 1925, regarding the matter of publication in villages of lists of lands available for assignment to the members of the depressed classes were not given practical effect to in this village ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) A letter on the subject received from the hon. Member was forwarded to the Collector of Salem and the hon. Member informed accordingly.

(*c*) The Government are not aware that the Board's instructions have not been carried out.

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Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" With reference to the answer to clause (c) may I bring to the notice of the Government that in several districts the instructions are not practically carried out. Will the hon. the Revenue Member be pleased to ascertain whether the instructions are practically carried out and to issue further instructions that the proceedings of the Board of Revenue should be practically given effect to ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I think it is only a month or two ago that, in deference to the hon. Member's insistence on the matter, I issued a circular to the Board of Revenue and to Collectors on the subject. I think it is too early to issue further exhortations."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know whether these instructions include the grant of lands which have been given on cowl or patta to other castemen who have cleared prickly-pear, etc., and made the land cultivable ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Those lands are not available for being granted to other people."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" As a matter of fact, I know Sir, that cowl lands are being given on darkhast. I know of cases where such lands were given to other people such as sepoys, etc., after the cowl period. I ask whether his instructions relate to the grant of the lands given on cowl and which are cleared of prickly-pear and made cultivable to other people."

The hon the PRESIDENT :—" That is a separate question."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" The circular was regarding the list of lands available for distribution. The hon. Member for Coimbatore refers to lands which are given for a certain period on sivayijama or cowl and says that they are assigned or reserved for the depressed classes. I think he ought to be aware that that should not be done."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" I refer to cowl lands."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" They ought not to be assigned to other people."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" The instructions were issued in March 1925 regarding the publication of the list of lands in villages available for assignment. It is nearly a year. Does the hon. the Revenue Member still think that it is too early to issue further instructions ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. the Revenue Member says that the instructions were issued only two months ago."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" My point is this. The original instructions of the Board of Revenue were issued on the 5th March 1925. It is nearly a year. The instructions have not been carried out practically. The hon. the Revenue Member said that it was too early to send now further instructions. I ask, Sir, whether it is too early now."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I do not know why the matter is not clear to my hon. Friend. It was only a month or two ago that the hon. Member gave me information that the instructions were not followed and at his instance I issued further instructions. Surely, he is aware of that fact. I do not know how I can explain further."

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Assignment of punja lands to ex-military men.

* 1536 Q.—Mr. R. Veerian: With reference to question No. 1107 answered at the meeting of the Council on 16th December 1925, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state why about 100 acres of punja land lying to the west of A. Kurumbur forest, Kattianallur, south of Mepulliyur, east of Kurumbur Veelakuttai, and north of Nachiarpet, are under contemplation for assignment on darkhast to ex-military men, when the Adi-Dravidas of B. Killanur village, Olundurpet, Tirukkoyilur taluk, South Arcot district, are in enjoyment of those lands for the past five years under the orders of the Deputy Tahsildar of that range, having spent about Rs. 800 for bringing the lands under cultivable state and when they have obtained necessary receipts also for assessment?

A.—The Government are not aware that any such assignment is in contemplation.

Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar:—"I understand from the question that some lands have been given to Adi-Dravidas on cowl for five years. They have spent Rs. 800 on the lands and made them cultivable. They are fit to be given on darkhast even to outsiders. The answer is 'the Government are not aware that any such assignment is in contemplation'. Why should not the lands be given to the people who are in possession of them now and who have spent Rs. 800 for the improvement of the lands."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—"Perhaps the Adi-Dravidas are in enjoyment of these on a system of cowl." 11-15 a.m.

Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar:—"The question and the answer taken together show that the Adi-Dravidas of B. Killanur village are in enjoyment of these lands for the past five years under the orders of the Deputy Tahsildar. In spite of what my hon. Friend, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, may say, whether the depressed classes are in enjoyment of these lands on cowl —I took it to be something like cowl—or under some other arrangement, I suggest that the lands may be given to the Adi-Dravidas who have been in enjoyment of them for the past five years on patta to prevent the risk of some other persons like sepoys and others coming and taking them on dharkhast."

The hon. Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks:—"I have no information with regard to these particular lands. If these lands were under the occupation of the Adi-Dravidas for the past five years, those who are in occupation should be given the first option, and I quite agree with my hon. Friend there."

Transfer of grazing grounds to the Labour Department.

*1537 Q.—Mr. D. Manjayya Heggade: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that the lands so far reserved as grazing grounds for the benefit of ryots have been made over to the Labour Department and assigned on darkhast to various applicants; and

(b) if so, what steps the Government propose to take for the maintenance of grazing grounds for the cattle?

A—(a) & (b) Government are not aware that this is a fact.

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Mr. G. Rameswara Rao :—" The answer given to this question is ' The Government are not aware that this is a fact '. May I know to which portion of clause (*a*) of the question this answer refers, whether it is with reference to the making over of the lands to the Labour Department or whether it is with reference to the assignment on darkhast to various applicants ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks :—" The first portion of clause (*a*) of the question asks ' Whether Government are aware that the lands reserved as grazing grounds for the benefit of ryots have been made over to the Labour Department '. The answer must necessarily be to that portion."

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao :—" May I take it that lands have been reserved as grazing grounds ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks :—" No, Sir."

Mr. P. Peddiraju :—" Arising out of the answer given, may I know whether the hon. the Revenue Member is aware that communal porambokes are generally reserved for grazing grounds and whether he is granting these communal porambokes to Adi-Dravidas ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks :—" I am not able to answer the question in that general form. It all depends upon what the hon. Member means by communal porambokes."

Suspension of village officers in Tanjore taluk.

* 1538 Q.—Mr. S. Muttayya Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that about seventy village officers have been suspended during the last six months in the Tanjore taluk, in the Tanjore district ;

(*b*) whether the number of punishments was greater during the last six months than at any corresponding period before ; and

(*c*) what the offences are for which they have been punished ?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The Government have no information.

Mr. S Muttayya Mudaliyar :—" The answer given to this question is ' The Government have no information '. Am I to understand that Government called for this information and they did not get it ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks :—" I did not call for it."

Mr. S. Muttayya Mudaliyar :—" May I know, Sir, why ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks :—" That is a matter in which local officers have full authority. I exercised my discretion and found that it was unnecessary to call for any information."

Mr. S. Muttayya Mudaliyar :—" I am perfectly aware that local officers have full authority in the matter. But I would point out that it is rather extraordinary that seventy village officers have been suspended during the last six months in the Tanjore taluk alone. Had it not been for the extraordinary way in which these unfortunate village officers were punished,

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nobody would have thought it worth while to table this question. If the hon. Member wants further information I may refer him to certain paragraph in a letter which was sent to me some days back in which it was stated that during the last six months about 100 village officers had been dismissed and about Rs. 1,000 were collected from some in the shape of fine. I wish to know whether Government think that in their discretion this is a normal state of affairs, that it is not necessary to call for any information and that I have wrongly used my discretion in putting this question."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I did not question the hon. Member's discretion in putting this question. I merely stated that in my discretion I did not find it necessary to call for the information."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" On having exercised his discretion if he has found that the dismissal of 100 officers within six months and the fining of some officers to the extent of Rs. 1,000 is a normal state of affairs and that he did not think it necessary to call for the information, and he having admitted that I exercised my discretion properly, I request him to revise his discretion. I only wish to point out that the hon. Member was probably not conscious of the whole extent of the grievances to which these unfortunate officers were subjected to and it was therefore that he did not call for the information."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know the reason why the hon. the Revenue Member who was praising these village officers so highly the other day did not think it necessary to call for the information especially when it is stated that they were so indiscriminately punished ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I do not admit the hypothesis."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Sir, in the letter that appeared in the papers probably day before yesterday it was stated that Rs. 1,000 had been collected from these poor village officers of the Tanjore taluk within a period of one or two months. I wish to know whether such is the case. We want to reduce the pay of these poor officers. Under these circumstances, if the hon. Member gets the information, and if he finds that corroborates ours, then I suggest that he may look into the matter carefully."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" If any of these things were true, and if any unfortunate person was aggrieved, he has got the right of appeal. I do not see any other information on this matter placed before this House except the statement that several of the village officers were punished. The Government have not received any appeal from the aggrieved persons. Under these circumstances I do not feel I will be justified in intervening in this matter at this stage. I gather that the officers have neither sent a petition to the Collector nor are about to send one to him, although they are at liberty to do so."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Does the hon. Member accept that all these officers have full power to do as they like ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I do not say so. I said the local officers have full power to deal with the matter on its own merits."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" My experience is that—the hon. the Revenue Member also knows it—these village officers hesitate to appeal against the order of the Divisional Officer even if they are fined one or

two rupees. I would therefore only appeal to him to see if he cannot find out whether what is stated in this question is a fact and do something in the matter, at least by confidentially advising his subordinates.''

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask whether the punishment of 100 village officers in the course of six months and the fining of Rs. 1,000 is a normal state of affairs and whether this is the way in which the administration of the Revenue Department is to be conducted ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. the Revenue Member has already stated that he is not impressed either by the number or the severity of the punishments."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" I am only asking whether this state of affairs exists in every district."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I do not wish to go into hypothetical questions."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" That is not a hypothetical question. It is a fact which I stated. If this is taken as the normal state of things which exists in every taluk in other districts, I ask whether it is worth while to carry on the administration of the Revenue Department with such officers."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I do not admit the inference."

Criminal Tribes.

Persons proposed to be registered under the Criminal Tribes Act, from 1913 to 1925.

*1539 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total number of persons proposed for registration under the Criminal Tribes Act from 1913 till the end of 1925 in each year ;

(*b*) whether the whole lot so proposed were registered ; and

(*c*) whether any reasons were given as to why each of the individuals should be registered ?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) Proposals for registration under the Criminal Tribes Act are not submitted to Government in respect of persons individually. Proposals are submitted in respect of a tribe and the tribe is notified as a criminal tribe, if the Government are satisfied that the members are addicted to the systematic commission of non-bailable offences. When they issue a notification, the Government at the same time direct the District Magistrate to make, or cause to be made, a register of the members of the tribe within the limits of his jurisdiction. The District Magistrate has power to exempt any member of the tribe from registration. The selection of members of the tribe for registration is a matter within the discretion of the District Magistrate and reasons for their registration are not furnished by him to Government.

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Depressed Classes.

Constitution and working of the Depressed Class Advisory Committee.

* 1540 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the nature of work entrusted to the Depressed Class Advisory Committee of the Madras Legislative Council;

(b) how many meetings were held during the past three years;

(c) the names of Members of the Legislative Council who are the members of the Committee at present;

(d) the suggestions made by the Committee since 1923 and the practical effect given to such suggestions; and

(e) whether they propose to add some more members to the Committee?

A.—(a) The functions of the Committee are only advisory.

(b), (c) & (d) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 1228 at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 8th February 1926. M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur M. C. Raja Avargal, M.L.C., and M.R.Ry. L. C. Guruswami Avargal, M.L.C., have since been appointed as members of the Committee.

(e) No.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know why all the members representing the depressed classes were not appointed to the special committee, namely, the Depressed Classes Advisory Committee?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Government thought that it was not necessary."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know what was the necessity for appointing almost all the members of the depressed classes from the Madras City leaving away those coming from the South."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" The Government thought so."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know the reason for appointing non-depressed classes man on that Committee which is a Committee purely to advise in connexion with depressed class questions."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Government thought that he would be very useful."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know the reason for leaving away one or two members on that Committee?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" There is no special reason."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" May I know the nature of the work turned out by this Committee?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Purely advisory."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know whether the members coming from the North will be able to understand the difficulties, needs and wants of the

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depressed classes living in the South? May I know the reason for not appointing almost all the members of the depressed classes on that Advisory Committee?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I have already stated that the Government thought that it was not necessary."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I ask whether he will kindly appoint all the members from among the depressed classes at least now?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order. That is a suggestion for action."

Enquiries into the alleged interference with the religious rites of depressed classes of Kuditini village.

* 1541 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: With reference to question No. 1042 answered at the meeting of the Council on the 15th December 1925 regarding interference with the religious rites of depressed classes of Kuditini village, will the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the district authorities have completed the inquiries into the matter and if so, with what results?

A.—Yes. A licence has been issued to the Madigas to take their procession subject to certain conditions prescribed in the interests of public peace.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I know whether the same kind of licence is being issued in the case of non-depressed classes while they perform their religious rites?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I am unable to answer that question off-hand. I want notice."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I know the reason why a licence is necessary when the depressed classes members want to perform their religious rites?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"To prevent a breach of the peace."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I know whether they had any dangerous weapons with them?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"It is not necessary that they should have dangerous weapons."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I know why they were restricted to pass through only certain places and why they were not allowed to pass through public pathways?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"That is entirely left to the district authorities."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"It is cross-examination. The hon. Member must realise that we are not a Court of Law."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"In order to elicit information I put that question. In fact I am not a lawyer to cross-examine the hon Member in charge of the portfolio."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member would do very well as a lawyer." (Laughter.)

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Emigration.

Conveniences in ships for emigrants.

*1542 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what orders have been passed by the Government of India and this Government for improvements in the ships, engaged for carrying emigrants from and to the several ports in the Presidency, as to accommodation, kitchens, latrines, sanitation, medical treatment, etc., within the last six months; and

(*b*) what action is proposed to be taken in future to ensure always the necessities of life and comforts of emigrants in the ships?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to question No. 1346.

Jails.

Mappilla colonization in the Andamans.

*1543 *Q.*—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether his attention has been drawn to the resolutions of the Khilafat Conference and of the All-India Muslim League, condemning the scheme of the Mappilla colonization in the Andamans;

(*b*) whether the Government have received the report of the recent Andamans Committee; and

(*c*) whether the Government have any idea of dropping the scheme, and if not, why not?

A.—(*a*) The Government have seen the reports in the newspapers.
(*b*) & (*c*) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1314 given at the meeting of the 9th February 1926.

Local Boards and Municipal Councils.

Nominations to Trichinopoly District Board.

*1544 *Q.*—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many out of the five members appointed to the Trichinopoly District Board are Bench Magistrates attached to the bench courts of Trichinopoly and Srirangam;

(*b*) in how many cases the communities to which the nominees belong, had already been represented—

(i) by appointed members and

(ii) by elected members;

(*c*) in how many cases the gentlemen recommended to be appointed had *direct* or *indirect interest* in subsisting contracts with the district board; and

(*d*) who made the recommendations and under what circumstances the nominations were accepted notwithstanding the disabilities?

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A.—(a) The hon. Member apparently refers to the five members whose names were gazetted on 24th January 1925. Two of these are honorary magistrates, one for Srirangam and the other for Trichinopoly.

(b) In only one case, that of the Muhammadan community, was the community concerned already represented on the Council either by nomination or election.

(c) The President, District Board, Trichinopoly, reports that he knows of no such case.

(d) The President, District Board, Trichinopoly, made the recommendations. In view of the answer to clause (c), the second part of the question does not arise.

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—"Arising out of the answer given in (a), may I know how many members out of 5 are nominated members?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"All of them are nominated."

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—"Was there any nomination of a Christian candidate to the board?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Among the 5?"

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB —"Yes."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"I should like to have notice of that question."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Is there any Christian member at all in the district board?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Sir, I believe there is a Christian member but I am not sure."

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—"There was a vacancy of a lady member. Was not a lady member appointed?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Not yet, Sir."

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—"Will the Government consider over this matter?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"If a suitable candidate is available."

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—"May I know whether they have received an application from a lady member already?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"The Government are not aware of it. If the district board finds that a lady member is available then that question will be considered."

Public Health.

Water-tap and lanterns for Adi-Dravidas in Thalayattam.

* 1545 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: With reference to question No. 1038 answered at the meeting of the Council on the 15th December 1925 regarding water-tap and lanterns for Adi-Dravidas in Thalayattam Adi-Dravida cheri, will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government will be pleased to call for the information?

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A.—The Chairman, Municipal Council, Gudiyattam, reported on 17th December 1925, that a water-tap and a lantern had been put up in the Adi-Dravida quarter at Thalayattam.

Education.

Managing Committee of the Saraswathi Mahal Library, Tanjore.

* 1546 *Q.*—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Committee of management of the Saraswathi Mahal Library, Tanjore, have got adequate funds to meet the necessary demand of printing and publishing the various catalogues that are now in course of preparation ;

(*b*) whether the Government propose to place more funds at the disposal of the Committee ; and

(*c*) if not, why not ?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The question is under investigation in relation to one of such catalogues.

Admission of ineligible lady students into Queen Mary's College.

* 1547 *Q.*—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of lady students who were ineligible according to the S.S.L.C. Examination eligibility rules but who were admitted in the Queen Mary's College ; and

(*b*) the reasons why they were so admitted ?

A.—(*a*) The year for which the information is required is not specified.

(*b*) Under the rules framed by the Syndicate of the Madras University for the admission of holders of Secondary School-Leaving Certificates to University courses of study, it is within the discretion of the Principals of Colleges for Women to make admissions of women holders of Secondary School-Leaving Certificates whether or not the names of such holders of certificates are included in the published list of certificate holders eligible for admission to University courses of study.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Police.

The report of the Police Committee of 1923.

1548 *Q.*—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the gist of the report of the Police Committee of 1923 ;

(*b*) whether the committee has suggested any alterations in the administration of the Police Department and, if so, what they are and how far they have been accepted by the Government ; and

(*c*) whether the Government would be pleased to lay the report on the table of this House ?

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A.—(*a*) & (*c*) The report of the Police Committee of 1923 has been incorporated at pages 203–219 of the report of the Madras Retrenchment Committee, 1922–23, volume II, which has already been placed on the Council table. A summary of the recommendations of the Police Committee will be found at page 213.

(*b*) The hon. Member's attention is invited to pages 26–27 of the statement appended to G.O. No. 666, Finance, dated 11th September 1924, which has been placed on the Council table. A supplemental statement[a] showing the action taken by Government on such of the recommendations as were reported to be under consideration at the time of the issue of the above Government Order is now laid on the table.

Number of police constables in South Kanara.

1549 *Q.*—Khan Bahadur HAJI ABDULLA HAJI QASIM SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Government propose to reduce the number of police constables in the district of South Kanara;

(*b*) if the answer to the above is in the affirmative, by how many is the number to be reduced, and what are the reasons for such reduction; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that Government propose to reduce the number of police stations also in the South Kanara district; and if so, how many and what are the reasons?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) By 68 constables. The proposed reduction is consequent on the scheme for the re allocation of the Police of this Presidency which has been undertaken by Government as a measure of retrenchment.

(*c*) Yes; by seven for the reasons given in answer to clause (*b*).

Floods.

Damages caused by the floods of 1923 *in South Kanara.*

1550 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the embankment called Raykutta in Mangalore taluk, South Kanara, was washed away during the floods of 1923;

(*b*) whether as a result several lands are overflown with rain water during monsoons and are rendered unfit for cultivation and if so, what area;

(*c*) what steps Government have taken to repair the damage and replace the embankment;

(*d*) whether Government or any local body are liable to make the repairs;

(*e*) what the approximate cost of the repairs will be; and

(*f*) whether any remission of assessment has been given to the holders of the affected areas, and if so what amount?

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 240-241 infra.

A.—No report on the subject has reached Government to date. A report has now been called for.

Land Revenue.

Conversion of an irrigation lake into 'ayan' in Vellore taluk.

1551 *Q.*—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact there was an irrigation lake which was useful to the ryots of 158 Allapuram village, Vellore taluk, North Arcot district, some time back;

(*b*) whether Government converted the said lake into "ayan" and whether they assigned the same to the ryots for cultivation;

(*c*) whether, owing to such assignment by Government in about 80 acres of land, "wet" cultivation has become impossible; and

(*d*) whether Government contemplate converting the said 80 acres to "dry," giving compensation to the ryot-owners?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The Government have no information. The matter is one with which the Collector is competent to deal.

(*d*) There is no such proposal before the Government.

Finance.

Increase in Government expenditure for the last five years.

1552 *Q.*—Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state the increase in expenditure by way of pay and allowances for Provincial and Indian services for the last five years?

A.—The expenditure incurred on pay and special pay of All-India, Provincial and other Gazetted officers during the years 1921–22 and 1925–26 is shown below:—

	LAKHS. RS.
1921–22	148·53
1925–26	155·44
Increase ...	6·91

These figures have been compiled from the budget estimates of those years.

II

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COUNCIL.

(*a*)

The Secretary laid on the table copies of the following Government Orders:—

(1) G.O. No. 89, [a] Development, dated 20th January 1926, passing orders on the audit report and accounts of Chenat Nair forest exploitation, for the year ending 31st March 1925.

(2) G.O. No. 8, [b] Development, dated 4th January 1926, recording the accounts of the Fruit Preserving Institute, Coonoor, for the quarter ending 30th June 1925.

a Placed on the Editors' Table. b Printed as Appendix II on pages 242-249 infra.

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(*b*)

The Secretary laid on the table [a] copies of the 16th and the 17th meeting of the Finance Committee for 1925-26 held on 12th and 13th February 1926 respectively.

III

GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOR 1926-27.

[*Note.*—An asterisk* at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

*Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Being myself a back bencher I shall follow the advice of a back bencher from the other side, and congratulate the hon. the Finance Member not on being able to give us a satisfactory statement of our finance but on being able to put a dry subject in a readable way. He is accustomed personally to speak of the impossibility of making bricks without straw, whereas I said once before that bricks could be manufactured without straw. Whether he agrees with me or not, I may congratulate myself that I am right in saying that bricks can be manufactured without straw."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" Metaphorical bricks cannot be manufactured without straw."

*Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Sir, because in India we are always manufacturing actual bricks without straw, I understood that the hon. Member referred to metaphorical bricks only. Sir, he may congratulate himself on his being able to give us a readable speech in spite of the fact that the subject matter is most unsatisfactory. Five years have elapsed since the
11-30 a.m. Reforms came into existence and what is the result ? So far as the masses are concerned, they have practically got nothing which would be useful to them, whereas the income and expenditure have gone up.

" Sir, the income in 1921-22 was 15·74 crores while this year it is 16·34 crores. The expenditure in 1921-22 was 16·28 crores including the 3·5 crores to be contributed to the Government of India leaving 12·80 for ordinary expenditure: and that has increased to 14·88 this year. If we compare the figure for 1923-24, a year of low expenditure, the expenditure has increased from 1,263 lakhs to 1,488 lakhs this year. The increase is over 2 crores. If, Sir, this increase is due to additional provisions for the nation building departments, it will be something. But nothing substantial can be said to have taken place except probably I must admit a small increase of expenditure under the transferred subjects this year. And in spite of the fact the Government of India have reduced their contribution from 348 lakhs to 222 lakhs with a further reduction of 57 lakhs this year, this is the position. One should ordinarily have expected that we of the Madras Government, I include the Members of this Council also, who wanted to tax the poor people when the expenditure was going up by way of additional stamp and court fees, should have thought it necessary and desirable to reduce the tax when money was available. And I thought that the first duty of this Government would be to give a lien upon this additional income towards the reduction of additional expenditure. Under Stamps alone when the new rate was imposed, in a year we had 31 lakhs of additional revenue and by the magical wand, as it were, of the hon. the Education Minister by the increase

a Printed as Appendix III on pages 250-252 infra.

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of the registration fees, we had additional income to the extent of 4 lakhs. We were promised year after year, and the Council has carried resolutions time after time, that when money was available the taxes should be reduced. But what do we see? When a remission of the contribution to the Central Government was anticipated, the Government have mercilessly increased their expenditure in such a way as to exceed the possible amount of remission. That seems to be rather very unsatisfactory. Sir, we find attempts are being made vigorously all the world over to curtail all unnecessary expenditure. And the hon. the Finance Member and his Colleagues know full well how many crores and millions have been reduced in the expenditure of the Government of England. Even the Government of India are reducing the expenditure substantially. But what do we find here? The expenditure, as I have pointed out, has been going on increasing and the increase has amounted, in the course of three or four years, to 2½ crores. I think there is a duty cast upon us by the public at large to see to the reduction of the expenditure. We must remember also that in spite of the demand of His Excellency the Governor made about three years ago that every department should reduce its expenditure by 25 per cent, the unfortunate situation in which we find ourselves to-day is that the expenditure has gone up by 25 per cent, mostly because of the increase of salaries. I do not say anything on the question of European or Indian at present. The fact is that when we have got a lot of people starving for want of a meal, suffering for want of drinking water and naked for want of clothes, we have 1,546 gazetted officers including 481 Europeans, 25,000 people drawing over Rs. 100, 35,000 drawing over Rs. 35 and 50,000, less than Rs. 35. It will be interesting if the hon. the Finance Member following the example of his predecessor would give us a list showing the increase of salaries allowed to the various officers over their salaries for 1920-21 so that we may have an idea of the extent of increase under this head in these five years. Salaries have gone up and the hon. the Finance Member said that the reason was the annual increments. We are not responsible for this state of affairs. The European high officers wanted increments and in spite of the fact that the Indian Officers' Association was prepared to recommend lower salaries for the Indian officers, the Government would not accept the proposal because it would be anomalous if the European officers got their increments while the Indian officers did not get any. The reasons that might have existed in 1920, 1921 and 1922 for this increase in the salaries have disappeared now and if we take into consideration the cost of imported goods, the prevailing rate of exchange and the considerable fall in prices, there is every reason that the officers, both European and Indian, should forego a portion of their income so that the poor may get on in this country. We have got, on the other hand, the unfortunate peons, clerks, warders in jails being reduced in their pay. I know of a case, and I have brought it to the notice of the Council, where a warder whose pay was once increased to Rs. 23 but was subsequently reduced to Rs. 18 was asked to duduct Rs. 5 from his pay towards recovery. I also know of another unfortunate incident, the case of a non-Brahman clerk, within the municipal limits of this town who had to pay a portion of his salary by way of refund and I am told that for want of milk and other conveniences, he was obliged to go to the tuberculosis hospital. It cannot be said that these are imaginary cases. I would only ask some hon. Members of this House to drive a few miles incognito and see for themselves the miserable condition of the Adi-Dravidas and other low castemen who have

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absolutely nothing to feed upon and to clothe themselves with. It is therefore absolutely necessary that we, instead of sitting at ease under the punkah spending crores and crores of rupees, should realize that the position outside is bad and should attempt at a saving from the expenditure to be utilised for reducing the burden of taxation. If we are really honest, if we really feel conscientiously the difficulties of the poor, we should have no hesitation in giving up the privilege of the punkah and other such items. If only some one of us is made to starve for a day, if only one of our punkahs stops for a night, it is then that we will be able to realize at least one-thousandth of the suffering of the poor. There is no use saying that these are imaginary grievances. They are real and the situation has to be realized.

"Sir, I do not want to dilate on these general considerations but shall proceed to offer a few remarks on the budget that has been presented. The hon. the Law Member, Sir, has to do with two important subjects with which Coimbatore is concerned. One is the Mettur project. I wish to ask the hon. the Law Member whether there is any truth in the rumour that after all that has been spent so far, they are going to change the place where the dam has to be put up. I do not know if that information is correct but I have received even to-day a letter that people are asked to wait for acquisition and other things, because there happens to be some doubt as to the strength of the foundation at the particular place, namely Mettur, and that they therefore propose to go further up to near Samballi. I should like to say that if they would go some three miles up, they might as well take up my humble suggestion for putting the dam some miles further up, in which case there would not be the necessity for so much acquisition and for drowning so many villages in the bed of the Mettur reservoir. But one thing I want to say. All that we are concerned in is to see that the acquisition work is completed as early as possible. If I am not making any extravagant appeal, may I ask the hon. the Law Member to try with Indian officers from top to bottom in the execution of the project? I think so far as the appointments are concerned, it is a transferred subject and I wish that the recommendation in the Lee Commission Report that the officers of the transferred subjects, the Public Works Department for instance, might be recruited in India, is given effect to in spite of the fact that we had an announcement a few days ago that a number of engineers European in blood and birth are to be appointed in England for the Public Works Department here.

"A word about the Pykara scheme. We, people of Coimbatore, have been suffering a good deal on account of the delay in the electrical schemes. We had almost in our hands some schemes by private agency; we had almost got our lights and fans. But unfortunately the Government interfered on the principle—I have no quarrel with them for that—that it should be nationalized so that the benefit may be realized even by the poor people. But one thing I may say. As a shareholder in the Tata Iron Company, I know the difficulties caused by importing costly people as officers. I am told that the Manager of the Tata Works is getting Rs. 20,000 a month and in spite of the original agreement by him to train Indian talent for the purpose it is evaded on the ground that no Indian is capable for the task. I would therefore make this appeal to the hon. the Law Member. By all means let them engage the best persons available irrespective of whether they are Englishmen, Americans or Germans but only let them be

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engaged for a particular period of time on the undertaking that they would train a large number of Indians in the line. Let the pay be as high as it ought to be but let a portion of it be retained by the Government for five or six years to be paid to them on their being able to produce about a dozen Indians capable of being their successors. It is only then they will see that whether a man is capable or not, they should make him capable and that unless they train him their capacity would be open to question. Also, Sir, so far as this electrical scheme is concerned, I would appeal to the Government to realize the necessity of giving the right of distributing the power to the local company, the Nilgris Syndicate, which has been working for a long time, spending a lot of money in supplying power to Ootacamund at present.

"Going back to Mettur, Sir, I wish to know from the hon. the Law Member, whether any steps have been taken by him to investigate the possibilities of irrigation in Salem and Coimbatore districts. He expressed some doubt so far as Salem was concerned. I put before the hon. Member some feasible plan whereby water can be taken to Coimbatore district on a larger scale and he, I will not use the word promised, agreed to appoint a special officer to find out whether water could be taken by having a sluice somewhere near Chettiyapatti above Kaveripuram. I have been also pressing the matter by deputation and in other ways that the acquisition might be made at once and the money be paid but let the people remain in possession of the lands for a few years paying some nominal rent till they find lands and houses in other places within a specified time.

"There is only one other matter concerning the hon. the Law Member. Two of my hon Colleagues have referred to the incident in Pondicherry, including my hon. Friend from Malabar. I may call him my leader and I am certainly obliged to him. As there is no longer any necessity for keeping back the anonymous nature of the victim, I may say that the victim was myself. I am therefore obliged to the hon. Member, Mr. Krishnan Nayar, and I may also tell him that he is also obliged to me for, if he had paid a visit to Mr. Arabinda Ghose's house when he went to Pondicherry recently after my visit, he would have been a victim like myself. Probably it is on account of that that he has not paid a visit. I may bear testimony to every word that appeared in the press on the matter. It may be as the hon. the Law Member has said yesterday, the officers of this Government stationed at Pondicherry were not aware of the person at the time because I went there incognito. I had no idea of going there. I had the least knowledge of Arabinda Ghose being there. It is possible, Sir, that some of my allegations might be denied now. I took precaution, Sir, even then. I 11-45 a.m. refused to yield unless they used force; they said that they had power to use force, and were about to use force, and I yielded also on one condition that I would give in writing a note of everything that took place at once, and that it should be sent to the French Government. There is a record of that, made by me at the time and it gives details of the information that was published in the newspapers. And if any doubt is thrown on the correctness of any reports appearing in the newspapers or elsewhere, I would ask the hon. the Law Member to get that paper which I left with the Police Commissioner there, and see whether the reports are correct or not. It is not a personal question. So far as I am concerned, my reputation has not in any way been lessened on account of this incident. On the other hand, I may say that I am

highly gratified that the fact that I was victimised may lead the hon. the Law Member, sympathetic as he is, when he goes into this question and reads my note, to see to the removal of what I consider to be the greatest scandal in the annals of either the French Government or the British Government, or even of the Madras Government which contains a majority of our own people as Members of the Cabinet. I do not want to say more. I have myself addressed a letter to His Excellency the Governor of Madras and to His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry. I have also sent a letter to His Excellency the Governor-General of French Settlements in India and another letter to the President of the French Republic. Probably my letters are also being published in the French newspapers in Paris. Therefore, it is high time that the hon. the Law Member takes special interest in this matter and sees that hereafter no Member of this Council and no respectable person of the Indian community living in the Madras Presidency shares that fate and that such incidents do not recur. I myself asked the French authorities to submit my note to this Government. Probably they would have done so by this time. I would appeal to the hon. the Law Member to look into the matter and see that such things do not occur again. (At this stage the bell was rung.) I have said what I wanted to say, and I hope the hon. the Law Member will excuse me for taking the liberty of speaking about this matter."

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I agree with the hon. Member from Coimbatore in saying that the budget speech is a very interesting document. Certainly, budget speeches need not necessarily be a collection of dry facts and figures, and the one we are considering is not without its element of humour. I will give but one instance—the paragraph wherein the hon. the Finance Member speaks of Meteorology being not yet sufficiently exact to give us an infallible warning as to when a bad season may be expected. In that paragraph there is a reference to floods and cyclones, very brief it is true, but still very pathetic. It reminds me of a line in Virgil *Infandum regina jubes renovare dolores*—'You ask me to relate unutterable woes'—and surely the hon. Member is relating the unutterable woes that befell the mirasidars of Tanjore and Trichinopoly when the floods came. Villages and portions of taluks which from an agricultural standpoint had been enjoying great prosperity were converted into sand heaps. And even where the untiring industry of the peasant has cleared the silt deposits and made the land once more fit for cultivation, the outturn, I understand, is unsatisfactory—just one-half of the usual yield—and even there deductions have to be made on account of the sudden rains that came upon the fields just at about harvest time. With regard to the places through which the devastating floods did not pass, I know as a matter of fact that many of them are still suffering from their effects because water cannot be taken through the customary channels. The Uyyakundan channel in the Trichinopoly district is an instance in point. That channel was never famous for its water-supply, and for the past two years it has been drying up just when water is very badly needed. The ryots of the place, who do not understand the special difficulties under which the Irrigation Department are labouring, begin to be sceptical of the capacity of the officers to afford them any relief. They even begin to be suspicious of such schemes as the Kilikudu scheme. They regard it as being a make-shift, a patch-work scheme, one hurriedly conceived and not one of those bold radical remedies suggested by Colonel Smarts. It was only the other

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day that the hon. the Law Member informed the House that until the Kattalai dam was completed it would be difficult to bring water into the Uyyakundan channel. And as regards this Kilikudu scheme, I know that the mirasidars of Trichinopoly have very serious apprehensions, and experience shows that *vox populi* is *vox dei*. Popular instincts are sure guides, sometimes even surer guides than schemes which are hurriedly got up, schemes which are born of panic and do not form parts of an elaborate project spread over a number of years, grappling successfully with the diversion of the river floods and inter-deltaic floods which figure so prominently in Colonel Smarts' scheme. Read in the light of these facts which certainly were not present to, and could not have been present to, the mind of the hon. the Finance Member, it seems to me that underneath the surface humour, there is a subdued tragic note. Since the days of Colonel Smart, nothing has been done to give effect to the radical remedies he suggested, with the exception perhaps of the improvement of some regulators, and the introduction of new regulators which can only control and regulate floods within the area covered by the works, with the result that even to-day, should we have a repetition of the floods not on the scale we had last time but even of the floods of 1920, I am sure the result will, as matters stand, be immersion of the deltaic portions of Tanjore and Trichinopoly. I will not enter into details, Sir. I will not speak of the neglect of the banks ; for instance, of the Vennar, where in the villages of Marneri and Kangiampatti, large productive areas have been, and are being annually, washed away by the river and nothing has been done, not even the planting of reeds to check erosion. I would only ask whether it is fair to revise and raise the rates on the one hand without at the same time affording such irrigation facilities as would ensure a regular steady and even flow of water without which the ryots cannot undertake improvements on a large scale and cannot introduce intensive methods of cultivation, such facilities as would infallibly regulate and divert the river floods and inter-deltaic floods of which I have already spoken. I for one have suffered much and am not bold enough to introduce improvements in the fields watered by a tributary of the Vennar, for another reason, namely, murai, as it is called in respect of these channels, that is, the absence of water in the channel owing to its diversion into some other channel for a whole week at the transplantation season. It is very difficult to store up water for a whole week. When the seedlings require water, as also the tender crop immediately after transplantation, they do not get it ; and if as a result of these circumstances they are exposed to drought, the yield is bound to be unsatisfactory whatever be the manurial or other improvements made, and at whatever cost. The wealth of India, the fabled land of fine pearls and diamonds, the El Dorado of the East is nothing but agriculture. Agriculture is certainly a very great source of wealth and consequently a great source of revenue only when there is a normal supply of water. I am here reminded of the words of an hon. Member spoken on another occasion, and in connexion with a different subject, that, however elaborate the rule, and I may add, however high the expenditure, the human machinery is apt to break down, and should it break down, and should, in addition, science declare its bankruptcy, and engineering skill never rise above temporary expedients, in that case, surely, the only thing left will be meteorology. *Magnum vectigal*, says the hon. the Finance Member, *est parsimonia* 'I maintain that it is certainly thrift to spend a very large amount on a well-considered and elaborate scheme, spread over a number of years, which will

assure a tenfold return, instead of spending small sums to repair damages just as and when they occur'. There is, however, a silver lining in the cloud. I read at page 7 of the budget speech of 'the creation of a new Tanjore circle to deal with the recommendations of the Cauvery Committee'. I would make an appeal to the hon. the Irrigation Member . . . "

At this stage the hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar entered the House and took his seat.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order, order. This is for the third time that a Member of Government has come between the speaker and the chair."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I apologise, Sir."

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—" I would make an earnest appeal to the hon. the Law Member that he would see that this Tanjore Circle concerned itself not so much with the operations connected with the Mettur project, but with giving full effect, not merely partial effect, but full effect, to the recommendations of the Cauvery Committee and also concentrate attention upon other irrigation problems not excluding those connected with the Vennar system. Agriculture, Sir, is our staple industry, and I think I may very aptly apply to this industry the words of the hon. Member Mr. Mac Dougal when he said that in addition to specialists and experts there should be created an agency for making the results of the experiments and research work carried on in laboratories reach the people themselves, be carried to the people themselves. It is certainly done to a limited extent by the Agricultural Department. What I say is that it is regrettable that more money cannot be spent for this purpose. Certainly nobody is to blame. But it seems to me that agricultural education or rather an agency for the diffusion far and wide of the elements and first principles of agriculture popularly presented, the opening of more agricultural middle schools and even the introduction of agriculture as a subject of study in elementary schools and secondary schools will meet this end. Again, Sir, a great deal of good will result from the appointment of clerks or officers to do propaganda work, to go about, delivering lectures on crops, on selection of seeds, the distribution of these seeds in small packets to agriculturists for sowing and transplanting, the sending out of clerks or inspectors to see that the greatest good is done by means of these experiments and that reports are made about this work.

12 noon. "Again the distribution in small quantities of artificial manures as is done in Bengal and the establishment of new experimental farms with minimum equipment for popularising improved agricultural methods are very necessary. These and other methods, Sir, I contend, cannot afford to wait for favourable seasons and prosperity budgets. It is a far cry, Sir, from Agriculture and Industry to the claims of the community which I represent. There is an impression gaining ground that my community is a very advanced one. It might be that from the educational standpoint it has made great progress. But I would ask hon. Members of this House to remember that from a material and social standpoint it is really a very poor community, if not one of the poorest communities in the Presidency. My appeal is this, Sir, that in the matter of representation in the upper subordinate or lower subordinate services, in the matter of aids and grants to schools or philanthropic institutions, in the matter of representation on the local boards or educational councils and secondary school boards, the claims of my community may duly be considered. I was very glad to hear the hon. Minister telling the House

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to-day that there is one member on the district board of Trichinopoly. Imagine, just one. Last month, Sir, Mr. Seturatnam Ayyar and Mr. Khalif-ul-la Sahib invited the attention of the House to the fact that there was not one single Indian Christian member on the District Board of Trichinopoly. If that was the case, at least then, in a district which counts 80,000 Indian Christians, I fear the prospects of the Christian community in other places where the number is small are not very encouraging. I appeal then, Sir, to the hon. Members of the Cabinet and the members of this House that they will see that justice is always done to this poor community. I know that I have only to appeal and I feel certain that that traditional British sense of fair play in the case of the European members and the traditional Indian charity in the case of the Indian members will make them heartily respond to my appeal, will make them see that not only justice is done but even special treatment is accorded."

* Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATIRAZU :—" Mr. President, Sir, when it is a disappointment even to the hon. the Finance Member to present such an unattractive budget, I may be permitted to characterise it from a popular point of view as a hopeless budget. We had remissions in the provincial contributions during these two years to the extent of 183 lakhs. There is no appreciable reduction in the revenue and on the other hand there is an increase. We are having normal times. Yet payment of liabilities is postponed, loans are resorted to to meet revenue deficits, anticipated revenues are not sufficient to meet the expenditure to which we are already committed. Additional taxation which was resorted to as a strictly temporary measure is not done away with. The people are groaning under heavy taxation and their primary needs even are not attended to. Is this not a hopeless situation? Is it statesmanship to come year after year with deficit budgets more or less in normal times? What are the causes that are contributing mainly to this state of things? In my view we are spending enormous sums on Police and such other security departments, as they are called, departments to maintain law and order. Charges on establishments are abnormally increasing. It is an admitted fact that these superior services are overpaid in India. Yet no opportunity is lost to enhance their emoluments. Unnecessary departments are either continued or created mostly in the interests of civil services. A bold policy of Indianisation of services and ruthless retrenchments of this waste only can save the situation.

" Now coming to the administrative side, the Government continues to be as irresponsive and as irresponsible as before the Reforms. Demands reduced by the Council are restored by His Excellency; Bills passed by the Council will not become law unless they are amended to fall in with the views of the Government; and unanimous resolutions passed by the Council are not given effect to. Government decline to take any action upon the unanimous resolutions passed by the Council to appoint a committee to enquire into the grievances of the non-gazetted officers and to stop emigration to Assam. Punitive police and special police were imposed against the wishes of the people. Even such a small thing as the inhuman practice of chaining the prisoners in the prisons is not given up. Even when public opinion in the Presidency is unanimous with regard to a particular matter as the release of Mr. Narayana Menon, it has not been given effect to. Such is the attitude of the Government with regard to the popular wishes and we are now in the sixth year after the Reforms. If such irresponsible conduct by Government is

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possible even in a Reformed Government, what is the use of the Reforms and what useful purpose can be served by these legislatures?

"Now coming to the grievances of the people, the condition of the people in rural areas is really miserable. In the matter of public health, medical institutions are very very few. There are only 768 medical institutions for a vast population of more than 42 millions. Fifty thousand people die of cholera every year, 20,000 people of smallpox, even though these two diseases are eradicated from all civilized countries. Death-rate is 25 per mille. When we come to infantile mortality, for every thousand that comes into existence in the year one-fifth die within the year. Now if we come to the water-supply question in the rural areas the condition is really hopeless. There is many a village which cannot think of even unfiltered water-supply during a large part of the year. Even in the case of municipalities only 30 out of 87 are provided with protected water-supplies. Out of every six or seven hundred unions there is one union provided with water-supply. Such is the condition with regard to the primary need of water to the people. Now with regard to sanitation, the sanitation of villages is not at all cared for or attended to. The people live in filth. Their mortality is so very high; their medical needs are not met and even good water is not given. Now with regard to their education, of course, I must say that some efforts are being made with regard to the elementary education of the masses. But when we take into consideration the appalling illiteracy which is a by-word in all civilized countries, the literacy being about 5 or 6 per cent, the efforts made by the Government are hopelessly inadequate. Some attempts are made to open elementary schools but greater amounts are spent on secondary and collegiate education. We are concerned with the creation of universities. We are concerned with reforms in secondary education. But of what use is either the university or secondary education while the illiteracy of the country is not lessened by having at least one elementary school in every village in the Presidency? Even with regard to the efforts made by the Education department regarding the elementary schools I must say the efforts are futile, mostly owing to the creation of these moribund aided schools. I do not mean to say that they are incapable of imparting education, but owing to the policy of the Education department in giving them paltry aid the teachers are obliged to resort to other avocations to eke out their livelihood. Most of tnem exist in name and if they are amply paid and if these aided institutions are allowed to grow with sufficient encouragement I think the educational question will be solved in a few years. Many a village does not know what a road is and in considering the importance of roads we will have to remember that the road has a great civilizing influence. It has a great influence on the economic condition of the villagers. When a village is easily accessible to the outside world there will be a great impetus for them to improve and fall in line with the other forward places in the country. Recently, some grant has been made for the improvement of these village communications. It is $6\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. It may look a big sum. But when it is distributed to the various local boards and various villages it is insignificant. Moreover the grant is made under so many conditions that I am afraid it will not be utilized. Grants are made in the last portion of the year when
12-15 p.m. the boards have spent up their amounts and they are asked to spend an equal amount. Moreover, we are asked to finish these works before the end of the official year. Both these conditions make it impossible for us to carry on

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the works to a satisfactory completion With regard to water-supply works, it is a still more hopeless affair. Even if it is possible to carry on the operations before the 31st March, the water-supply source that is created with such grants is of no use during the hottest part of the year. In the matter of sinking wells, the water will be at a higher level if they are completed during this period of the year, and these wells naturally dry up during midsummer, and once they are finished it is impossible to improve them. So, if the Government were to insist upon these grants being utilized before the end of the official year, I am afraid it would be a sheer waste of money. Now, if we consider all these things, in the matter of village sanitation, public health and education, the people are groaning under so many disadvantages, and if these grievances are not redressed, what is the use of a civilized Government? (Hear, hear.) If the budget does not make sufficient provision for the removal of these grievances, I think the most honourable course for us will be to reject it."

* Mr. B. Obalesappa :—" Mr. President, I will not take much of the valuable time of the House by any criticial or detailed examination of the budget. I will content myself with a brief enumeration of a few matters that strike me as demanding particular attention from the Government.

" It is very regrettable to point out in my general remarks on this budget that the Government and the hon. Members of this House have bestowed no attention whatsoever on the promotion of the interests of my community (barbers), though this community is more serviceable to all the parties of this Honourable House (laughter) and all the members of every class in the country.

" There are many Veda mantras which speak very highly of the profession of my community (the hon. Sir A. P. Patro : ' Hear, hear '), vide Rig Veda, chapters 8 and 10 ; Yajur Veda, chapter 3, page 63. According to Atharvana Veda, chapter VI, I think my community may be able to prove that it is of Brahmanic origin in descent. (' Hear, hear ' and laughter.) Under the reign of Muhammadan kings, such as Aurangazib, etc , Hindus, especially high castes, such as Brahmans and Kshatriyas, were in great difficulty. Many of them changed their names, residence, professions and threw off the signs of their high birth, i.e., the sacred thread, and so they are now considered to be Sudras or Non-Brahmans. My community was also one of them. But we are still called Nai Brahmans in the Central Provinces. It is our misfortune now we have fallen from our once high estate and are now one of the most backward and minority communities in this province According to the last census, the population of my community is about 2 lakhs, out of which only four or five graduates are found in it. There is only one double graduate in the Judicial Department, namely, Mr. Nagabhushanam, the present Sarishtadar of the District Court of Cuddapah. He is fully qualified to hold a high office such as the appointment of a District Judge. But he is put down for want of influence with high officers. If the hon. the Law Member will pay some kind attention to my community (Mr. R. Veerian : ' Hear, hear '), just as he is doing in the case of the other backward and depressed classes (laughter). I am bold enough to say that my community will advance considerably in a very short time. I therefore request the hon. the Law Member to be kind enough to take note of the claims of the abovesaid Nagabhushanam for his elevation at least as a District Munsif for the present. (Laughter.) I further submit that the hon. the Law

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Member will be graciously pleased to redress the grievances of Maruthuvakulars (barbers) that are being treated very badly in numerous ways in the Tinnevelly district by high caste people for refusing to do the work expected of them in connection with the cremation of human dead bodies.

" Coming to the Revenue department, I learn that there are two graduates and three or four school final candidates Out of the two graduates one, namely, G. Kondiah, is serving in the Cuddapah district as a Deputy Tahsildar of Forest panchayats and the other one, namely, I. Venkatachalam, is serving as a taluk head accountant of Hospet taluk in the Bellary district. The latter is fully qualified to hold a Deputy Collector's post. But, for want of influence with high officers, they are not able to advance. So, I beg to submit to the hon. Member for Revenue to issue orders to the Collectors concerned regarding the promotion of those two graduate members and also the other members of my community who are employed elsewhere, and ask the Collectors to show a special concession in their promotion, as my community is very badly represented in the Revenue department as compared to the other classes. Further, I regret to say that my community is as poor and landless as the depressed classes. I beg therefore that the hon. Member for Revenue may be pleased to issue orders to the Collectors to assign poramboke and waste lands fit for cultivation to the members of my community also, as they are doing in the case of depressed classes.

" Coming to the Development department, I regret to say that there is only one, namely, V. Subba Ramiah, who is employed in the Co-operative department as an inspector and he is now in the Nandikotkur taluk of the Kurnool district. Unfortunately, his prospects have been a little blasted for his having taken a little part in the distribution of memorials to the higher authorities praying for the retention of his superior in the Cuddapah district, viz., the Assistant Registrar. I therefore submit to the hon. the Minister for Development to consider his case favourably and remove the bar for promotion so that my community may not suffer unduly since he is the only representative of my community, as far as I know, in that department. I further regret to say that two graduate members of my community who are serving in the Revenue department had applied for the posts of Assistant Registrars last year, but the hon. the Minister for Development overlooked their claims and appointed some other persons having less qualifications than those.

" Coming to the Education department, I request the hon. the Minister for Education that Government scholarships may be provided liberally both in the secondary schools and colleges for the members of barber and washerman communities, as they are most backward in education of all the other classes.

" With regard to the local boards and municipalities, I beg to submit to the hon. the Chief Minister in charge of Local Self-Government that at least one seat for each community of barbers and washermen may be reserved in each local board and municipality where these communities are numerically strong. I further submit to the hon. the Chief Minister for Local Self-Government that a separate circular may be issued to all the Collectors and Presidents of the District Boards to pay special attention to the communities of barbers and washermen while sending nominations, both for the local boards and municipalities. Otherwise, these communities are not likely to be recommended by the local authorities.

" With regard to the depressed classes of the Ceded districts, I am extremely sorry to say that Government have not sufficiently provided for their education and for assignment of lands and house-sites and for digging wells for their use. So I request the Government that an Honorary Assistant Labour Officer may be provided for each district to look after the grievances of the depressed and backward classes.

" With these few remarks, I shall come to a conclusion of my speech."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"Sir, I am rather disappointed in connection with the presentation of the budget during this year. It is a deficit budget. But a deficit budget is not necessarily an unsatisfactory budget ; a deficit budget is not a bad budget provided one can show that the deficit is one which could not be avoided. In my humble opinion, however, I consider that a deficit budget has a very educative and stimulating influence, and therefore I should not fail to congratulate the hon. the Finance Member on that point. Well, Sir, I find that it is a great pity that no steps were taken or no attempts were made to relieve the economic distress in the country. Well, Sir, as long as no attempts have been made in that direction, there will be no social emancipation. What do we find after all? A most useful class of people who form one-sixth of the population of this Presidency and who are very useful members of human society are classified as untouchables, and I should like to quote their total population, which is about 6,484,766 according to the Press Communique, dated Fort St. George, 8th March 1920. These people are greatly responsible for producing the wealth of the country, 12-30 p.m. and in tilling the soil throughout day and night. Without food it is not at all possible for any human being to exist in this world. Moreover, these so-called untouchables are the strong pillars in this country. But what do we find? Sufficient allotment is not at all provided in the budget. Only a small sum, viz., Rs. 5,85,500, has been provided for their betterment, whereas a sum of Rs. 3,11,000 has been provided in the budget for a class of people who are not at all doing any useful service to the country, who always while away their time, who do not contribute to the wealth of the country and who are most dangerous to human society. Such people are being encouraged. Well, Sir, I would not like to mention the name of that community. They are confined only to three districts, Madura, Ramnad and Tanjore ; whereas the so-called untouchables are residing not in one district, but throughout the 24 districts in the Presidency. What do we find after all? There are only ten districts to which the activities of the Labour department are confined. Even in those ten districts, only to particular taluks their activities are extended ; and to finish up those activities in a particular taluk it takes nearly five years. And if there are ten taluks in a district it must necessarily take fifty years on the whole. This shows that we are to wait for half a century till their activities are extended to all taluks of those districts Of this Rs. 5,85,000, a part will be spent in maintaining the establishment in those districts, and a part of the amount only will be spent in ameliorating their conditions In order to cope with the work in almost all districts, I should like to suggest that three or four districts may be grouped together and an Honorary Deputy Commissioner of Labour from among the depressed classes may be appointed, so that he may be able to protect them from any harm that may come to them. It is not the question of money, but it is the question of protecting the so-called untouchables. If there is anybody who is specially appointed for that purpose, as was

suggested by me, I am sure he will very often make references to Government and protect them from any harm that may be done to them. The so-called untouchables are not at all very particular about receiving any benefit from other classes of people or from the Government. But no harm should be done to them. That would be the greatest boon to them, to protect them from any harm being done to them by others. I hope my suggestion will not be considered an unreasonable one and trust serious consideration will be given to my suggestion put forth on the floor of this House.

"I should like to point out that in the last year only 200 scholarships were given to the so-called depressed classes in the whole Presidency from fourth standard to the sixth form, whereas the school-going population comes to 124,774. Can we say that this is a sufficient inducement? Certainly not. I do not see any benefit at all in offering only 200 scholarships. There are large restrictions also in granting scholarships. I submit that the age restrictions in awarding scholarships should go away and the depressed classes should be exempted from such restrictions. In the hostel started for Adi-Dravidas in Madras, I find there are only 43 boys. There should be provision for at least 100 boys and there should be a hostel for girls also on the same lines. I hope that these suggestions will be considered favourably. After all, knowing the activities of the Labour department, I do not think that they are in any way better than showing a plantain to a crying child. We are old enough for such things. We are not particular about lip sympathies, but we are very particular about the results and practical benefits to us from these activities.

"Coming to the nominations to the various local boards and municipalities, whenever I ask why a particular man was not appointed the Government's reply was that suitable candidates were not available. Human nature expects an intelligent answer to an intelligent question. Do you think, Sir, saying that suitable candidates are not available is an intelligent answer? Certainly not. I want to ask them pertinently as to how they came to know that suitable candidates were not available. The depressed classes have not been given a chance to serve. Have the Government tried them? In the absence of any trial, how can you say that suitable candidates are not available, as if the appointing authorities are expert in Ashtavadanam, i.e., doing eight things at a time, eating, writing, counting, reading, imagining, and so on? I do not think the reply is a very appreciable one. But the hon. the Minister used to give a very sympathetic answer and it is not in any way better than the Tamil proverb 'அவர் பிடித்த முயலுக்கு மூன்றே கால்.' I am glad to see that the hon. the Minister is contemplating to amend the Local Boards and District Municipalities Acts. I should like to suggest that the Acts in all these respects should be so modified as to make it obligatory on the part of the appointing authorities to give nominations to the depressed classes on various local bodies and municipalities. I have got the statistics here. I find that in many of the municipalities members of the depressed classes are not being appointed. Out of 80 municipal councils, they are being ignored in 20, out of 126 taluk boards, they are being appointed only in 72 boards, out of 24 district boards I think they are appointed only on 20 of the boards. It is a great pity to find that out of 660 union boards, only in very few boards these members are being appointed. The results are far from satisfactory. I hope the hon. the Minister in charge will kindly take these suggestions very seriously into consideration and see that adequate

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representations are being given to the so-called depressed classes in order to avoid our interpellations and other frequent representations in the matter.

" Now, coming to the Education Department, what do I find there ? In the year 1919, I find that there were 8,157 elementary schools, but out of these schools run by public management the members of the depressed classes are being allowed only in 609. What about the rest ? Since then a good number of schools have been started, and I hope the hon. the Minister will seriously consider this and see that the depressed classes are freely admitted in all the schools. There is no use of sending a polite circular. It should be made obligatory on the part of the correspondents of the schools and headmasters to admit all these classes of people without any distinction or obstruction whatever. If they think that in certain schools depressed classes are not admitted, the teachers concerned should be warned and should even be dismissed. Everything depends on the teacher. I am sure that these instructions will be carried out by issuing circulars in a practical manner.

" As regards instruction in these schools, it is being imparted in a very hopeless manner. They teach nothing more than 'cat, rat, a cat and a rat sat on a mat', 'those who have not got eyes are called blind, those who have not got legs are called lame, those who have not got heads are called dullards', and things of that sort. (Laughter.) We do not want such kind of hopeless instruction. So it is advisable for the hon. Minister in charge to take early steps to modify the curriculum, so that useful instruction may be imparted in the schools and those who receive the instruction may become useful members of society.

" Again, I find that the interpretation of the rule contained in the Madras Educational Rules, rule 72, is not made in a correct manner. The rule is ambiguous. Very often, the hon. the Minister in charge used to puzzle me and give puzzling answers whenever I asked why concession was not allowed to the members of the depressed classes and backward communities according to rule 92. This rule for half-fee concession applies only in the case of secondary schools and colleges, on the production of poverty certificate, but poverty certificate is not at all taken into consideration or given effect to by the correspondent of the school. The rule should be so modified as to admit the members of the depressed classes free without payment of any school fees at all, in all Government Institutions. It costs nothing to the Government. But in the case of aided, mission and non-mission secondary schools and colleges, it should be so modified as to admit members of the depressed classes at not more than one-fourth of the standard rate of fees. The Government can compensate the management to make good the loss sustained. I hope the hon. the Minister in charge will not consider these suggestions as unreasonable. I am sure that he has real sympathy at heart and I hope this real sympathy will be turned into practical sympathy and I will really thank him if he does so on behalf of the community. As regards rule 73 (1), this rule applies only in the case of elementary schools. Even in elementary schools run by Government and Local Boards members of the depressed classes are not being admitted without pay ment of fees. It is left to the option of the teachers and correspondents of the schools to decide in the matter. They will have to see whether the student can afford to pay or not. In order to get rid of the student, they used to say that his parents are rich enough to pay. I hope this rule would be so

modified as to make it compulsory on them to admit all the members of the depressed classes into these schools without payment of fees. There should be no conditional clause at all as at present in rule 73 (1).

"I have got some more important points. As regards jail administration I come to rule 387 of the Jail Manual. It says: 'In allotting labour, reasonable allowance should be made for caste prejudice, i.e., no Brahman or caste Hindu should be employed in chuckler's work.' I do not know why such preferential treatment should be shown to these people who also come under the category of 'convicts'. Jails are intended to reform people and they should not think that jails are father-in-law's or mother-in-law's house to expect preferential treatment. Those who frequent the jails should be given even that work and we should not pitch upon a particular class of people for that work. In the Alipuram jail, all classes of people are asked to throw their night-soil and urine into the incinerator. Nobody will then grumble. If all classes of convicts are asked to remove their own night-soil and urine, it will be more reasonable. I do not think the hon. the Home Member will say it is unreasonable. The proverb says 'ஊருக்கு இளைத்தவன் பிள்ளையார் கோவில் ஆண்டி'. So, it must not be thought that because the depressed classes are poor and simple-minded they will tolerate all this and they only should be asked to do thoti work. There are different sub-sects among the depressed classes and all of them are not accustomed to do the thoti work.

"Coming to the Staff Selection Board, I find there is an examination and the applicants have to undergo that examination by remitting fees on the production of medical certificate also. I believe this Staff Selection Board was created with a view to maintaining a standard of efficiency. But there are several other methods of maintaining the efficiency. I know bright school students who were capable of passing any difficult examinations, but if they were put in the practical line they were not able to shine. They are not able to do practical work efficiently. One the other hand, there are some students who were dull in their school days, but if they are given practical work they shine well. What are we to say for this? The standard of efficiency could not be gauged by mere examination alone. Some students by cramming from books may be able to pass any kind of difficult examinations. This is not the way of maintaining the standard of efficiency in various departments. I want to know whether such persons will be able to solve any practical problems. Passing examination is one thing and doing practical work satisfactorily without passing such Staff Selection Board examination is entirely a different thing. Therefore the depressed classes shoud be exempted from the Staff Selection Board examinations. I hope the hon. the Law Member has real sympathy for the depressed classes at his heart and he will take down notes on that important point." (Loud Laughter.)

12-45 p.m. * Mr. C. E. Wood:—"Mr. President, on the principle of a little adverse criticism being good for every one I have tried to find something in the budget about which to complain but regret to have to say that there is very little with which I can find reason to quarrel. I feel sure we all must regret very much that it has not been possible to make more provision for medical and educational needs but, without additional taxation, this seems quite impossible.

"We Chambers of Commerce are always on the look out for unfair competition. We are prepared to meet any amount of fair competition at any time.

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"In examining the budget for Government grants there appears to be only the usual provision for carrying on existing Government enterprises and I think the general opinion may be said to be that we regard none of the existing enterprises as really serious competitors. But we are entirely against such enterprises in principle. There is the usual provision of four lakhs for State aid to industries but, even this, if wisely distributed, should not cause us any great apprehension. We would however welcome a statement of policy by the hon. the Minister for Development in the matter of Government enterprises. I believe it was indicated in this House a short while ago that Government were now departing from their original policy of granting financial assistance to commercial concerns only when existing institutions would not be adversely affected. We would welcome an assurance from the hon. the Minister for Development that it is not the policy of Government in any single case to support inefficiency so that it may destroy efficiency. The logical sequence of such a policy must be that it should be applied also to the professions, such as the legal and medical professions, and that Government should support members of these professions who, in competition with their more able competitors, are not able to progress.

"I must say that I by no means share the terrible gloom and depression in which some hon. Members have stated they are enveloped after reading the budget. The hon. the Finance Member has for all practical purposes been able to present a balanced budget and I may say that if during the past four years all commercial concerns could have recorded the same they would have been very well satisfied.

"I think we may congratulate the hon. the Finance Member upon his very lucid and easily understandable statement and upon the fact of his having been able, as the result of his hard work, to point to such a favourable position of affairs."

* Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"Mr. President, Sir, it is all very well to lay down, as the hon. the Finance Member has chosen to do, that in the administration of this Presidency they are guided by great principles, principles laid down by eminent men, but it is very difficult to satisfy an ever-vigilant public opinion that that principle has been given effect to in practice. The hon. the Finance Member referred us to Cicero's maxim that 'thrift is a great source of revenue,' and assured us that this consideration is ever present in the minds of the Finance Department. Even taking the Finance Member's statement as accurate, it is certainly open to question whether the alertness of the Finance Department alone can bring about the millennium unless and until all the other departments of the State also put their shoulders to the wheel and make an honest attempt to follow a definite line of action which, while consistent with the maxim above referred to, will at the same time be in consonance with the just and sound principles of taxation and finance. Tested in this light, the financial administration of this Presidency is certainly far from satisfactory.

"It will be remembered that when we were all clamouring for the remission of provincial contributions, we were actuated solely by the belief that any relief obtained in this direction would go to the rescue of the nation-building departments which were actually starving for want of adequate

funds, and His Excellency Lord Willingdon, then Governor of Madras, gave us the assurance that when relief was obtained in the matter of provincial contribution, the whole of this amount would be earmarked for expenditure on nation-building departments. It is with this view, viz., that the nation-building departments which were actually starving should obtain sufficient funds to carry on amelioration work that our representatives in the Legislative Assembly pressed the Government of India to give relief to the provinces very harshly affected by the unjust Meston award ; and the anxiety they had in this matter will be evident if we look into the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly wherein they have definitely stated it to be their recommendation that the whole of the amount remitted in the provincial contribution should go to the Transferred Departments. But what happened actually ? The budget figures were so manipulated last year that we were faced with a deficit and a large slice of the 126 lakhs obtained by way of relief in the provincial contribution was taken away to meet the deficit in the budget with the result that the Transferred Departments in spite of the assurance given by His Excellency Lord Willingdon and the desire expressed by the Members of the Legislative Assembly, obtained only a small slice of this amount, thus making it impossible to venture upon any ameliorative schemes which can go to alleviate the lot of the masses of the people in this Presidency. This action is now sought to be justified on the grounds that the Legislative Assembly had no authority to impose its will on the Provincial Legislatures in the matter of the utilization of the amount remitted in the provincial contributions and that the Government of India had not laid down any condition as to the manner in which this amount is to be expended. These arguments may be correct theoretically but it lacks that moral force which alone can justify it. The same story is repeated this year also, in spite of a further reduction in our provincial contribution of 57 lakhs. Out of a total reduction of 173 lakhs, only 72·55 lakhs have been set apart for new items of expenditure, of which only 25 lakhs and odd go to the Transferred Departments. Is this a state of things, I ask, with which we can be satisfied ?

"I shall now turn to some aspects of the administration which hit a very large proportion of the population of this country. According to the budget estimates, 38 per cent of the total revenues come from Land Revenue, Stamps and Excise—the departments of the administration which directly affect a major portion of the population of this Presidency. Only recently we had a full dress debate for about two days and a half in discussing the question as to what should be the future excise policy of this Government. Several suggestions were put forward from this part of the House, and they were all rejected by the Minister *calling* himself a representative of the people, and a wishy-washy resolution has been passed on the sole responsibility of the Ministerialists in this House which, I am afraid, is not in the least going to effect any change in the present system. Under the head 'Stamps' also, a major portion of the income derived comes from the poorer classes of the population. Though the enhancements in the duty on stamps and court-fees were only made as a temporary measure, we see no indication yet of its restoration to the original level. Then let us take the Land Revenue. I desire at the outset to draw attention to one declaration that was made by the Land Revenue Settlement Bill Committee, 1921, under the presidency of the then Revenue Member. This was to the effect 'that there

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was undoubtedly a strong feeling prevalent among a section of people in this Presidency that some form of permanent settlement is necessary.' This is clearly an under-statement. It is a fact admitted by every one who has known the history of the sad tale of the revenue settlements in Madras, that the demand for a permanent settlement of land revenue in this province is an universal demand. It is one that is made not so much in the interests of the landed classes as in the interests of the economic well-being of the masses. The history of this long and continued agitation is quite familiar to the Members of this Council. I need not therefore take up your time in detailing the evils which the present system of land revenue settlements has wrought in prejudice of the economic well-being of our province. This must now be accepted as common ground between the Government and ourselves—at least after the joint committee's final pronouncement in 1919. It seems to me consequently that this Government is under the clear duty to get rid of the existing land revenue system as early as possible. It should not take refuge under the plea that the legislature had rejected the particular brand of legislation which the Government had proposed. In the past, for over 75 years, the Government had administratively also attempted and proposed different solutions. None of them were successful. None of them could settle the great issues involved to the satisfaction of all the parties concerned including the Government of India and the Secretary of State. The whole of this history, therefore, seems to me only to prove that the one alternative which they have all along avoided is the only one through which this admittedly urgent reform should be carried out, namely, the introduction of some specific form of permanent settlement. It is the policy which was originally intended and declared to be the policy of the British Government in respect of all ryotwari lands in this Presidency. It is the policy which the Madras Government supported all along until a reactionary Secretary of State in the eighties of the last century finally gave the go-bye to the pledges and promises previously made. The injustice and hardships created by the doctrine of Government ownership which was laid down by him in unmeasured terms were later sought to be alleviated by such sympathetic officers of Madras who gave thought to the matter, by various proposals. But some proved illusory or were found unpractical to work out, while others were turned down by the superior authorities. As in political, so in economic reforms we find that the Government of India and the Secretary of State have only laid down devolution and autonomy in paper. They continue to dictate policies to the Government which perpetrate past injustices. Even the draft Bill of 1924 does not appear to meet with their approval. But so far as we, representatives of the people, are concerned, nothing less than some form of permanent settlement will satisfy us. It may be said that the Taxation Enquiry Committee have made some proposals in this behalf. But as the matter of permanent settlement was removed from the scope of the enquiry, their recommendations can in no way be considered to be made on a thorough examination of all the aspects of the problem and therefore deserve to be brushed aside as an one-sided statement of the case. It is our clear duty, as representatives of the people, to press for some form of permanent settlement, failing which it is for the representatives to consider whether the time has not come for the adoption of the policy of 'grievances before supplies'. Clearly allied with this is the question of irrigation facilities. It is a well-known fact that the irrigation and drainage facilities in the Deltaic area are far from satisfactory and the

hon. the Finance Member himself has admitted this in his speech on Monday last in the statement he made 'that in the Cauvery delta the standard at which training and protective works are maintained is inadequate and that money should be spent not only on restoring but also on improving the conditions which existed before the floods'. In addition to this some portions of the Trichinopoly district are year after year affected by drought, so that the ryots have been reduced to a very miserable position. Improvements in the irrigation facilities of the Trichinopoly district have been commenced last year by excavating the South Bank Canal and while I feel thankful to this House and to the Government for realizing the urgency of the matter, I feel bound to add that the excavation of the channel by itself would not solve the real problem facing the ryots of the Trichinopoly district, though it may go some way to relieve distress. At present the existing course of the Marudur Nattu Vaikal has been widened to double its original width and deepened by one foot under the original depth. It must not, however, be forgotten that at the head of the new channel, no sand escape is provided and, a layman as I am, I believe from my experience of the korambu channels in the district that the new channel also will be silted up during the first floods, especially as the bed of the river in front of the head is rocky, necessitating the flow of sand into the channel. I therefore appeal to this House and particularly to my hon. colleagues representing the neighbouring district of Tanjore to support me in my demand for an anicut at Kattalai which will go a great way to relieve the ryots of the Trichinopoly district from the miserable position they are placed in. There seems to be some misapprehension that the construction of the anicut would affect the interests of Tanjore, but I assure my fellow mirasidars of Tanjore that no such thing would happen and I am fortified in this view by the opinion of experts also.

"There are many other points of administrative detail to which I would like to make a reference, but the time at my disposal is very limited that it is not possible for me to refer to them even incidentally. I shall however refer briefly to some points which are agitating the minds of the people of my district in particular. The House will remember that at my instance a resolution was passed recommending the reduction of the tree tax to its original rate. As I have then explained at some length the reasons for the motion, I need not go into them again. The Government have not given effect to the same. Nor have they given effect to the recommendation of this Council to grant remission in partial fields. Also, the resolution relating to the grant of suitable funds for alleviating the distress of the people of the flood-affected areas has not been given effect to fully. The funds placed at the disposal of the co-operative societies are too meagre to cope with the work and the materials supplied are not sufficient to complete the work within a reasonable length of time. Even in the matter of compensation for lands taken for the road and railway construction, the rates are fixed on the present value of lands which should necessarily be much less than its original value in the pre-flood period. I understand that even where remissions have been granted, local fund cesses are being levied, and I need hardly say that it would be a great burden on a landholder who has lost all his produce. These points, I think, are sufficient to show the indifference with which the Government treat the ryots; and yet we are assured from high quarters that nobody is more interested in the agriculturists than themselves and we are

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going to have a costly Agricultural Commission. I would therefore appeal to the Revenue Member to consider the plight of the poor agriculturist and do his best to relieve his lot.

" One more point and I am done. The system of conditional grants for elementary education, rural water-supply, village communications, etc., works a great hardship on the boards whose financial resources are far from satisfactory. I therefore request the hon. the Minister to reconsider the matter and adopt suitable measures to improve the lot of the people."

* Mr. Chavadi K. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI :—" Mr. President, Sir, it is surprising to see that the budget presented by the hon. the Finance Member is both disappointing and unsatisfactory. I find in this budget that large amounts of money are provided for erecting public buildings. Great sums of money are also spent in the Forest Department, without a proportionate income. The amounts might as well have been usefully spent for meeting the pressing needs of the people, such as irrigation, education, agriculture, industry, medical relief, sanitation, roads and communications, etc. 1 p.m.

" The budget allotment for irrigation is inadequate to meet the requirements of the people. For instance, the Manur channel in the Tinnevelly district is under repairs for the past fifty years. The bunds in various places are in a bad condition and there is plenty of silt to be removed. This was repeatedly brought to the notice of the hon. the Law Member in charge of Irrigation during the budget times of 1924 and 1925 by my hon. Friend Mr. P. N. Marthandam Pillai and myself. The hon. the Law Member replied that the Superintending Engineer had been directed to expedite the necessary repairs to the Manur channel in Tinnevelly district. No steps have hitherto been taken by both the Revenue and the Engineering departments. It is also strange to see that no provision is made in the budget for this channel. Unless and until this channel is completely repaired and the silt removed, there will be no safety for the bunds which will lead to great loss to the people. There is another instance of similar emergency. Adequate provision is not made in the budget for complete repairs to the bunds of the Tambraparni river, which have sustained serious damages in several places, especially in the following places :—

' Left flood banks above the Marudur anicut and below the Srivaikuntam anicut. Right flood banks below the Srivaikuntam anicut, north main channel and other breaches of serious nature.'

" It will be beneficial to the people at large if more amount is allotted for irrigation, as most of the people in this country depend chiefly on agriculture. The hon. the Law Member is requested to make necessary provision as early as possible.

" I invite the attention of the hon. the Home Member in charge of the Forest Department to the fact that large amounts of money are being spent unnecessarily in cutting down and removing the trees on the Papanasam hills in the Tinnevelly district. This is strongly objected to by the people, as it is detrimental to the Tambraparni river and its irrigation. A committee of the official and non-official Members of this Council may be formed to enquire into and discuss the matter. The further cutting of trees in the above forest may be ordered to be stopped till the committee finally settle the matter.

"As regards the forest reserved portions, those adjoining villages may at least be handed over to the forest panchayats I bring to the notice of the hon. the Revenue Member that there appear to be plenty of poramboke darkhast lands, fit for cultivation, which have been reserved for depressed classes and Military sepoys for a number of years in some of the taluks of the Tinnevelly district, especially Nanguneri, Tinnevelly and Srivaikuntam taluks. I welcome the reservation, but at the same time choice may be given to the poor applicants, if any, among other castes, if there are no applications from the depressed classes or the Military sepoys within a reasonable time, which may be fixed by the Government.

"No provision appears to have been made in the budget for the village officers to be restored under the Village Officers Restoration Act.

"In the matter of education, the hon. Minister has achieved one great object by the passing of the Andhra University Bill into law by which the people of the Andhra districts are very much satisfied. I hope and trust that the hon. Minister will be pleased to frame schemes for a Tamil University, place the same before this hon. House and thereby satisfy the people of the Tamil districts who are very anxiously waiting for it, with a view to improve the Tamil literature.

"The system of elected presidents introduced in some of the district boards in certain districts of this Presidency is an important reform, worth mentioning during the present Chief Minister's regime. The system is no doubt working successfully and I have full confidence that the hon. Minister will soon introduce the system in the remaining district boards also.

"It is also satisfactory to note that every endeavour has been made during the last year to introduce medical relief in the rural areas; but the funds allotted to them for this year are not sufficient. It is requested that proper encouragement will be given to them. It is also requested that Unani, Ayurvedic and Tamil Siddha Vaidhya dispensaries may be opened in rural areas at Government cost, as the establishment of such dispensaries would be less costly and more popular, for I know that the Ayurvedic dispensaries sanctioned by the Tinnevelly Taluk Board work satisfactorily.

"The construction of village roads and water-supply in rural areas require large amounts and provision has not been made in the budget for these items. There are practically no roads at all to many villages from the main roads, especially in the Tinnevelly district. I hope and trust that the hon. Minister will see to it as soon as possible.

"As regards the selection of members for nomination to the local boards and municipal councils, the procedure now adopted by the hon. Minister seems to be that the District Collectors alone are consulted and orders passed thereon. Neither the presidents of the local boards nor the chairmen of the municipalities appear to have any hand in the matter. In the interests of the administration of local boards and municipalities, I think it better to ask the presidents and chairmen concerned to select the members from the unrepresented classes, as they are supposed to be in close touch with them. It is very satisfactory to note that the hon. the Minister for Development has increased the number of co-operative credit societies in some districts and it is hoped that greater attention will be given to the rural areas and more societies opened. Agricultural banks for the advance of loan to agricultural people may be opened in all the rural areas and the help of the Government

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with large funds to meet the requirements is absolutely necessary to work out the plan in this direction. Without such pecuniary aid, any attempt of the hon. Minister to make the department a success will be in vain.

"As regards industry, it is very essential to develop it as the country is very badly in need of it. The hon. Minister is expected to devote special attention to this, and allot adequate funds for the starting of industries in rural areas, so as to enable the people at large to be benefited by them."

* Mr. B. P. Sesha Reddi :—" Mr. President, Sir, I have no doubt that this Honourable House is well aware that, so far as the Ceded districts are concerned, bad years is the rule and good years the exception; and the Government instead of trying to avert the consequent famines in the district by provision of suitable facilities for irrigation and other measures, prefer to devote all their attention and resources to districts like Tanjore which hardly know what a famine is like. This neglect of our districts is a cause for grave dissatisfaction among our people.

"The Forest Department, I fear, is too much in evidence in our districts. Instead of the department contributing to the additional convenience of the people, it has become a fertile source of annoyance to them. Our ryots cannot now easily procure even agricultural implements. The grazing fees for our cattle and sheep are excessive. The result is that very many people are obliged to part with a considerable number of their cattle. This, in its turn, means diminution of the available manure and ever decreasing outturn from land. The Government also derive no profit corresponding to the amount they spend on the department. It cannot well be otherwise, when the Government are bent upon creating high-salaried appointments for inadequate reasons. In my own district of Kurnool, there have been at times as many as six or seven forest officers without there being sufficient work for them.

"The excise administration in our district leaves much to be desired. The Government provide in all conscience more than enough facilities for people to get drunk and, in addition, I strongly suspect that there is also an illicit traffic in intoxicants which cannot be without the knowledge of the local officials and which can be put down if the officials are serious about it.

"Our districts are very backward educationally and yet the Government treat us with even less consideration than what they show to other districts which are comparatively wealthier and more literate. In our parts there are very many villages which cannot boast of even one literate man. Even among villages with a populationof over 500, there are many which have no elementary schools. The Government refuse to help the board to start schools in such villages, if there is already a private missionary or other aided school. These private agencies do not really meet the actual demand for education in the villages. In my district the local boards have levied the full education cess and yet the Government do not see their way to find for us the additional amount necessary to bring education within reasonable reach of all people. Again, there are many villages where schools cannot be established for lack of suitable buildings to locate them. At least for such villages the Government should allot grants for building purposes.

"In conclusion I want to refer to the water scarcity which is acutely felt in several parts of our districts. Villages which have absolutely no drinking water well for their use are not at all uncommon. In some places people

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have to go four or five miles during summer to fetch drinking water. The difficulties of the depressed classes in this respect are even more deplorable. I request that the Government may be pleased to bear in mind all these facts and give liberal grants to the boards to enable them to mitigate the sufferings specified above."

Mr. A. V. Bhanoji Rao :—" Mr. President, Sir, the hon. the Finance Member in his budget speech invited us to attend to the final obsequies of the last completed financial year first, before he would speculate on the prospects of the coming year. I must confess that in both the tasks that he has undertaken he has acquitted himself creditably. The budget as finally presented to the House discloses an amount of industry and care bestowed by the Finance Department which deserves recognition at the hands of the Council.

" There is, however, one portion of the budget which I have not been able to understand. The principle on which loans are borrowed and the purpose for which loans could be utilised have been gradually changing from year to year. Like the Lord Chancellor's notorious foot (laughter), this principle seems to vary with every Finance Member. The hon. Member in the course of his speech remarked that the purposes for which loans could be utilised for capital works are guided by certain financial regulations and these regulations have been more rigorously, or perhaps more efficiently, applied this year than in previous years. I am unable to see what the exact principles which regulate these transactions are. I have gone through the Public Works Department Budget and I am surprised to find several items provided for out of the revenue funds, which one would have ordinarily expected to be met out of loans. I shall only instance a few to show how the deficit has increased owing to the application of what is, I conceive to be, wrong financial canons and principles. It may be that these canons have been forced upon the Local Government and the hon. the Finance Member from above. But in that case I think it is high time that we should protest against such restrictive rules as hamper orderly progress. I remember the late Finance Member suggesting as a canon that works costing over a lakh of rupees might be met from loan funds but that works under that amount might be met from current revenues. That was observed during one of the financial years, but in the present budget, if you turn to the budget memorandum, you will find that very costly schemes involving an ultimate estimate of from 3 to 6 lakhs have been provided for from revenues.

1-15 p.m. " In this connexion I should like to know from the Government why opportunity has not been taken to have a Joint Financial Secretary to specially advise the Transferred departments. I am aware that in other provinces this has not yet been done. I do not suggest it in any sense as a reflection against the Finance Secretary or the Finance Department. There must have been a purpose, a very deep purpose also, in the recommendation of the Joint Committee and of the learned authors of the Report when they suggested the advisability of having a Joint Finance Secretary; and it seems to me that there ought to be a proper explanation why this provision has not yet been availed of. Those are the two points which I want to bring to the notice of the hon. the Finance Member.

" Coming, Sir, to the hon. the Law Member he has two subjects, Law and Irrigation, in his charge. I have tabled a resolution regarding the

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Sessions Court at Vizagapatam. It was not reached because a very urgent public matter came in the middle. So I take this opportunity to request the hon. the Law Member to continue the Agency Court at Vizagapatam. We must be satisfied with two things for the continuance of the court. One is whether the court has sufficient work to do, so that it may be continued. The second point we have to consider is whether it is financially hampering the Government, i.e., whether the Government is spending any extra amount on that court. Regarding the first point I may point out that there is enough of appeals and suits besides sessions cases so that it is quite necessary to continue the court and make it permanent. Regarding the second question, that of finance, I wish to point out that the amount realized from stamp fees, etc., is large and the Government are not incurring any extra expenditure, but they are spending out of the money realised from the court. The third point I would like to point out is that justice is wanted. We are told that the sessions court will be included in the Revenue Department. Now we have a separate Judicial officer as Sessions Judge. A proposal is under consideration to take away the Sessions Judge and merge his office into that of the Personal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor or to appoint some other Revenue officer to attend to this work. In this connection I may point out to the hon. the Revenue Member, because he is also concerned in this matter, that it is not fair that you should take away the separate Judicial officer and appoint a Revenue officer. The first point is if an officer is appointed to look after both the work, he will not be able to do justice to his work because he will not have sufficient time. Secondly, people want justice. I do not mean to say that justice will not be rendered if both the work is looked after by one officer But he will not have the time and experience which a separate Judicial officer will have. I leave the point there and request the hon. the Law Member to say in his reply what he is going to do in the circumstances. I may point out that several mahazars have been sent from the Agency tracts asking that District Munsif's Courts may be opened there because they are paying money to the other courts. I leave the Agency Courts there.

"Then I come to the subject of projects of irrigation. There is not much of irrigation in Vizagapatam as the hon. the Leader of the Opposition knows. But there are one or two important schemes, in the Sarvasidhi and Golgonda taluks. I request the hon. the Law Member to call for plans and estimates for the Tamavada Reservoir Project. That project is not a major or big project. It is a small project.

"The next point is about the provision of Rs. 50,000 that is made for a combined court-house at Vizagapatam. In view of the increasing cost of labour and materials, I think it is better that the Government should take the earliest opportunity to complete the building as otherwise they will have to incur extra expenditure. I want to point out that it is better to provide at least a sum of $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees this year and finish the work in two years at a cost of 3 lakhs of rupees. Otherwise the Government will hae to spend 6 lakhs of rupees as great developments are taking place and te price of everything has gone high. The expenditure to be incurred ill be very great if the work is not finished in two years. I therefore request the hon. the Law Member to provide a sum of one and a half lakhs of rupees this year.

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"Well, Sir, I leave the hon. the Law Member, and come to the hon. the Home Member. I would suggest to him only one matter. There are long-term prisoners in the Vizagapatam Jail and I would request him to make provision for technological institutions to train the convicts in skilled labour as artisans, masons and carpenters so that when they come out of the Jail they will find a big avenue of work, on account of the development of the port. With that, I leave the hon. the Home Member. I have nothing to say to the hon. the Revenue Member.

"I come now to the hon the Minister for Local Self-Government. Hon. Members are aware that there is a well-equipped hospital and Medical College at Vizagapatam which are the nucleus as it were of the Andhra University. The people in my constituency are grateful to the hon. the Minister for establishing a Medical College there. It is as good as the Medical College at Madras. Even though the hospital is not as decent as the Madras Hospital, it is a very good one. I congratulate the hon the Minister for what he has done. At the same time I wish to point out to him one or two matters. There is already a professor of Hygiene and Physiology and I request the hon. Minister to make arrangements for the training of sanitary inspectors You have a Deputy Sanitary Engineer at Waltair. It is not difficult for the hon the Minister to arrange to train the Telugu Sanitary Inspectors at the Medical College at Vizagapatam. That is my first suggestion to him The second suggestion is this. You have a Medical College there. A large number of students find it difficult to find places of residence and I would request the hon. Minister to make arrangements for the construction of a hostel for the medical students.

"There is one other point. There was a very useful dispensary, the Jaggarow dispensary which was closed as soon as the new hospital came into existence. That dispensary was very useful to the people in the southern wards. Since that dispensary was closed, people find it very hard to go all the way—two miles—to the new hospital. I requested the hon. Minister when he came to Vizagapatam to see his way to have a small dispensary in the southern wards to give medical relief to the people there. I may point out to him that there would be no extra expenditure. The professors of the College may be asked to attend to the work of the dispensary in turns. As for the supply of medicines, the King George Hospital can supply them. There will be no extra expenditure. There will be no difficulty about finding a building. There is already a big Medical school and a portion of it can be utilized for the dispensary; it would relieve the distress of the people living in the locality. I hope the hon. the Minister will see his way to open a dispensary ere long.

"One more point. I just want to speak about the Town-Planning Trust to be created for Vizagapatam It is very important in view of great developments in Vizagapatam. I would also request the hon. Minister to provide funds for grants and loans, because a back water scheme must come into existence in view of the development of the harbour. Unless and until the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government comes to the aid of our municipality, it is not possible for a poor municipality like ours to give a sum of 15 or 20 lakhs for that purpose.

"So, I request the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government to provide grants for water-supply.

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" Now I turn my attention to the hon. the Minister for Education. I do not find him here. (Laughter.) We are very grateful to him for the establishment of the Andhra University In this connexion I would suggest one thing to him and that is about the establishment of a Technological Institute. It has already been stated that there is a second-grade college at Vizagapatam. I would request the hon. Minister to convert it into a first-grade college as soon as possible. 1-30 p.m.

" Now I come to the Development Minister. Until the Trade School proposed by the Director of Industries is established at Vizagapatam the workshops of the Andhra Engineering Company may be subsidised for the training of a select number of apprentices on such terms as the Director of Public Instruction may prescribe. I would request the hon. the Minister to consider this point.

" As regards shortage of houses to non-gazetted officers, the high rents that are demanded led the Non-Gazetted Officers' Conference at Trichinopoly to include Vizagapatam also in the list of Presidency towns for purposes of an allowance for dearness in the cost of living. It is therefore necessary that in consultation with the Director of Town-Planning and the Registrar of Co-operative Societies a scheme should be evolved to offer facilities for the members of the services to have decent houses and for this purpose a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs should be provided. As my hon. Friend from Coimbatore pointed out nobody is taking care of these poor people and they have not sufficient means to build their own houses.

" While thanking the Government for opening a Fisheries station at Vizagapatam for the East Coast, I would request the hon. Minister—I pointed this out to him when he came to Vizagapatam—to make provision for the early construction of a marine aquarium and laboratories and also to take over the Municipal Fisherman school and develop it into a Fisheries school for the East Coast with a laboratory attached to it."

The House adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.).

* Mr. P. K. S. A. Arumuga Nadar :—" Mr. President, Sir, there is little scope of the tax-payers being satisfied unless Government deems it proper to produce a surplus budget and dedicate more money for the redemption of their real grievances. As matters stand at present, there is no prospect of the Government getting rid of the deficit budgets unless serious steps are taken to effect retrenchments in all departments. Appeals from all parts for improving village cart roads have reached the Government to no effect. It would have been well if the Government in the interest of public convenience had decided to sanction at least half of the estimate given even on the proposal from local bodies or any local association. It is really a matter of serious grievance to the poor villagers, whose major portion of earnings goes to the Government in the shape of taxes, that the Government have not devoted their attention to facilitate their traffic. I hope the Government will do for the poor villagers the construction of necessary cartroads which they are in most need of.

" I congratulate the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government for taking steps to introduce medical relief in rural areas. If he pushes on this scheme, more vigourously, I hope the poor villagers will be satisfied to some

extent. I think it will be better in this connexion to point out that steps should be taken to train up ayurvedic physicians in unani methods and that they should be given first chance in rural medical relief departments. Unless some steps are taken in that direction, there is no encouragement to our Indian physicians practising on Indian lines. As such, I hope the Government will realize this and take immediate steps to improve it.

" Coming to village courts, they are given powers to try only cases valuing up to Rs. 50 ; and so, the valuation of the suits lying within their jurisdiction may be raised to Rs. 100. This will safeguard more money of the taxpayer who may not be going unnecessarily to the munsif's court.

" Though the Government has recently announced that the public roads, wells and tanks are open to all classes of people irrespective of caste or creed, yet it has not come in to effect. There will be no effect at all by simply passing a Government Order. Unless Government make arrangements to take criminal action upon persons who obstruct people making use of the public roads and wells the Government Order cannot at all achieve its object.

" I am very glad to learn of the Education Minister's practical steps to improve education on linguistic basis, e. g., the Andhra University Act. I hope that the Minister will soon think of introducing a Tamil University Bill. If such measures are not taken to improve education, with the mother tongue as the medium of instruction, I fear that the swaraj goal is not in our sight. The present system of imparting education to our pupils is far from satisfactory. It takes nearly 25 years of their life-time to reach some level before which they are obliged to spend most of their time to earn a livelihood and consequently lose their energy disabling them from developing what they had studied during such a long period of 25 years. So, I request Government to give proper education to our pupils so as to make them fit for any work physically or intellectually on reaching majority age. As far as the improvement of education is concerned, I am glad to say that where there are 50 Nadars' houses in a village, we could see a school there conducted and fully maintained from their Mahami (charitable) funds. Now, in many of the villages we are starting girls schools and giving free education to them. Such being the case, I request the Government to consider the schools maintained by Nadars more favourably by giving them more grants and to take immediate steps in starting schools wherever there are no schools, in every Nadar village that contains even less than 50 houses.

" No doubt the Government are taking every step to improve the Kallars. This system is necessary for a country like ours for the Government to take the initiative and I hope in future similar provisions will also be made to educate the depressed classes, to have labour officers in all districts either paid or honorary, to look into their grievances and take the necessary steps to ameliorate their condition.

" I am glad the hon. the Law Member has taken practical steps to start the Mettur project schemes. No doubt it is beneficial not only to those districts concerned but also to other districts to form an idea of having such sort of scheme in their districts to improve wet irrigation lands. When the hon. Member visited Periyar, it seems he came to understand that if Kallar scheme be combined with Periyar and a joint hydro-electric scheme as well as a great irrigation project can be started, it will be of immense use to the public besides bringing income to Government. When such is the case, I

hope he will consider it and do the needful by at least having a preliminary survey of the scheme this year. I should like to say in this connexion that my community belongs to the minority communities and has been for ever loyal to the Crown. This community has not been taken into consideration by the Government in the matter of giving appointments. Though there are many qualified men among them and very few in Government service, they are not at all encouraged in any way and none of them working in departments in the lower grade have been promoted to higher grade in the selection made usually every year. So, I request the Government to take steps to encourage our men and to take them in the higher grades of appointments when further recruitments take place and thus give opportunities to those that are already in service as they are only very small in number in proportion to the population.

"With regard to the recent dissolution of the Virudhunagar Municipal Council after the redistribution of wards, the Deputy Collector was nominated Chairman. It seems there was a huge cry about the conduct of the chairman with regard to the elections held recently. After declaring a candidate duly elected after the counting of votes it was altered the next day for some unreasonable purposes. In another ward a candidate was declared duly elected without any election being held at all which is illegal. Announcing to the public by beat of tom tom that residents of the 11th ward were prohibited from going into the 3rd ward and canvassing therein, such as they did, is absolutely unlawful and bears testimony to the high-handed dealings of the official chairman. So, I request the Government to take immediate steps and to have an open enquiry of his action stated above and take the necessary action on the officer concerned as is the duty of a responsible Government like this so as to safeguard public peace."

* Mr. K. Sarabha Reddi :—" Mr. President, the dominating feature of the budget now under discussion seems to be the conspicuous absence of Government's attention to the needs and requirements of some unfortunate districts, particularly, Ceded districts, and more particularly the Kurnool district.

" It is painfully disappointing to see that not a page of this voluminous budget contains any information which goes to prove that the Government is aware of the conditions prevailing in those districts, or that Government feels that Kurnool district also forms part of the Madras Presidency and that it is also entitled to a share of the benefit of the total revenue of the Presidency to which it also contributes its own share however small and insignificant it may be.

" The budget seems to be a proof positive and a proof in abundance of the fact that the guiding principle chiefly observed in its preparation is what is contained in the Biblical expression 'To him that hath shall be given and from him that hath not will be taken even the little that he hath.'

" The chief and right function of any Government should be to collect from all but to spend for those who stand in most need of help. If this should be recognized as the paramount duty of any Government then while the field for collecting revenues should extend all over the Presidency the field for spending should be concentrated to a few places which are most backward. It is the sick that needs the medical help and not the healthy

and hale. It is the weak and not the strong that need support and help. It is the falling beam that needs a prop and not that which is sound and firm. These simple maxims do not seem to have played any prominent part in the preparation of the budget.

"Of all districts in the Presidency, the Ceded districts are the poorest and they are proverbially backward in all respects. But alas! it is the Ceded districts that are denied a warm corner in the heart of the Government.

"Take any item of expenditure mentioned in the budget. Take first the item 'Irrigation.'

"You know that the Ceded districts cannot boast of the existence of such natural facilities of irrigation as Tanjore, Kistna, Godavari and some other districts can boast of. But the budget provides funds counted in thousands and lakhs for improvement of irrigation facilities in those districts while practically nothing is provided for Cedde districts.

"Mettur project alone gets for this one year nearly a crore of rupees to fatten the already fat people of Tanjore district. Godavari and Kistna which are already rolling in gold produced by the Kistna and Godavari deltaic systems get also large amounts though my friend Mr. Peddiraju still complains that the Government are not liberal enough in giving them sufficient grants. His demand reminds me of a Telugu proverb which says that while there are some who cry for want of salt to be mixed in kanji there are others who complain of want of enough sugar to be mixed in milk. While men of favoured districts complain against insufficient provision made for their districts, men of the districts like mine have to suffer owing to seeing the ignominious partiality on the part of the Government towards other districts and its total apathy to help the really needy and famine-stricken people.

"Nearly half a dozen years ago, the Government sanctioned a small project called Thokappaly project and started its execution They actually spent 30 or 40 thousand rupees and suddenly abandoned the work leaving the materials to waste. Again last year the Government sanctioned another small project called Thippajupalam project and actually spent about Rs. 20,000 and now I hear the work has been suddenly given up. For the residence of officers in charge of works, bungalows have been constructed. Some engines and other costly materials were collected, several officers from distant places came, drew their salaries and fat travelling allowances and left for good. The buildings are likely to be dilapidated, and the material such as sand, stone, chunam, etc., collected will shortly disappear.

"It is not known what political stratagem it is that impels the Government to instil some hopes into the hearts of the poor ryots and suddenly extinguish the hope in turn suddenly abandoning the works. This is really most sinful. This involves wastage of public money also. Probably it is owing to the desire to help the already rich and prosperous people of other districts that the poor ryots of districts like mine are deprived of what was promised to them.

"This was the fate of the two projects taken up by Government and judging from this it is hopeless to expect Government to take up any other project. The hon. the Law Member at the time of the discussion of the Irrigation Bill said that when the Irrigation Bill becomes an Act it will be possible to convert the Ceded districts into a fertile garden. This assurance

was followed up by the appointment of the Irrigation Committee for Ceded districts. People thought that good times for Ceded districts came in. But it was only a hope (like the hope entertained on former occasions) which was destined to be soon frustrated. A committee was appointed and a president on a fat salary was appointed. Then it ended. The Committee was given no scope to tour about and hold enquiries. It was not given any establishment. In fact, it was not placed in a position to do anything. The Committee met formally once or twice in the grand hall in the Madras Chief Engineer's office. They spent their time in hearing what the President was saying about his experience of the Ceded districts when he happened to serve there as a Superintending Engineer. They spent their time in chatting with one another about their own incapacity to do anything in the absence of Government help. The preliminary report was submitted in which the Government was asked to give more time and to give some establishment and thus enable the Committee to do some substantial work. The Government did not condescend to accede to this proposal. The final report was prepared by the President himself and is now under circulation for signatures of the members. Just in the *Hindu* of the 2nd instant there appeared an article over the signature of my Colleague and Friend Mr. Ramachandra Reddi touching the Committee and its work. He seems to envy the Ceded districts in getting a committee and he seems to charge individual members of selfishness I may be permitted to tell my Friend at once that we derived absolutely no benefit from the so-called Committee, that the Committee was no Committee at all in the proper sense of that word, that the members had absolutely nothing to do with the drafting of the report and that it was after all a farce which the hon. the Law Member probably designed to make fools of the men of the Ceded districts.

"From the sham projects and the sham Committee, if I may so call them, which the Ceded districts appeared to have had, I proceed to real irrigation conditions now prevailing in Kurnool district. There are several tanks in the district constructed in pre-British times. Most of them have either completely or partially been ruined by efflux of time and by the continued apathy on the part of Government to restore them or improve them. If they were in any of the favoured districts like Tanjore, their condition would not be what it is at present. You may know of a tank called Varadarajanna tank in Cumbum in Kurnool district. It is one of the biggest tanks in the whole presidency. Its circumference is about 30 or 35 miles. It has an ayacut of about 7,000 acres. It was constructed 400 years ago by one of the consorts of Krishna Devaraya, the mightiest of the Andhra kings that ruled over Vizianagar. It never used to dry up except once in 20 or 30 years. It never failed to yield to Government its annual assessment of over 70 or 80 thousands of rupees. Of late it has been drying up almost every year. Every year there has been failure of crops and consequent necessity for granting remission. In no year the whole ayacut is irrigated. The rain gauge registers prove that the rains have all along been the same but still the tank has not been receiving supply. This is a mystery which no lay man like myself can understand, and there is no professional man who takes any care to investigate the causes of the deterioration of its water-supply. The Government do not seem to care to know about it, probably because it is not in one of the favoured districts. The people who were once very prosperous as they had always bumper crops under the tank have naturally

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grown poorer and have left their homes in large numbers to other districts in search of food. Exactly similar is the fate of several minor irrigation tanks in the district.

"There was once a Government Order issued directing the Executive Engineers to tour about periodically in their jurisidiction and hold regular darbars to know from the people direct their condition of irrigation sources and submit plans and estimates for improving them. But the Government Order is only a scrap of paper. In answer to a question asked by me in the Council the Government answered that the Executive Engineer did speak to a few people in one place. This answer served no other purpose than that of exciting the laughter of the members then present.

"In one word the irrigation facilities in Kurnool district are few and those few are never thought of by the Government, since, I once more say, they are not in the favoured districts like Tanjore.

2-45 p.m. "From Irrigation, I go to Forests Forests, unfortunately to the district and unfortunately to the Government, there are many in the Kurnool district. The Forest Department is the worst administered department in the district. If at all there is any department in the district which has been making the Government most unpopular, it is the Forest Department. It is giving no income to the Government and it seems to exist for the forest subordinates, and for nothing else. I wish there were no forests in our district at all. The Forest Department will not cease to exist and the ryots' miseries will not cease to exist. The grievances are too many to enumerate. In a few words, I may say that the ryot is denied the privilege of getting even on payment agricultural implements most essential for agricultural operations. He is denied the privilege of having even on payment timber for the construction of dwelling houses. He is denied the privilege of having even fuel for cooking his meals. These are indispensable requisites which the ryots must have even at the risk of incessant punishments at the hands of the Government for transgression of Forest rules. They must transgress if they are to live. At my request the Government appointed a committee to inquire into and report on the forest grievances the ryots are suffering from. The Committee did tour about, held enquiries and submitted a report making therein several recommendations most of which I learn were approved by the Government. But in spite of these the grievances remain as they were before the Committee made its recommendations. In some cases they have even been aggravated. The Forest rules are by themselves stringent and the officers that administer the rules make them appear all the more stringent by interpreting the rules in their own way. I shall illustrate this by giving one instance. On the recommendation of the Forest Committee the Government considered that a grazing fee of 8 annas for every local cow and one rupee for every foreign cow should be collected. The Forest Committee when they made their recommendation intended that all the cows of the district should be classed as local cows and all the cows coming from other districts should be treated as foreign cattle and that the fees should be collected on the above presumption. The Government when it approved of the recommendation and passed orders accordingly must have evidently had the same classification in mind. But one learned District Forest Officer interpreted it that only the cattle belonging to the village whose borders touch the borders of a particular forest should be treated as local and those belonging even to the very next village situated, say a

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mile or two from the village, should be treated as foreign. He sends circulars ordering collection of grazing fees on the strength of that classification. Thus the district is deprived of the benefit of the sympathy of the Government.

"Then again the Government ordered the supply on payment of fees to the ryots agricultural implements for bona fide purposes. One District Forest Officer modifies the order without any justification, legal or moral, and orders that no village should be supplied with more than five or six carts irrespective of the number of the ryots inhabiting the village. All these means untold misery to the ryot The Government will not care to know the suffering of the ryot except through their accredited forest officers and subordinates however much they may be characterized by idiosyncrasies and natural apathy towards the interests of the ryot population. Unfortunately the forests are not in the favoured districts like Tanjore. If they were there, surely their administration would not be what it is.

"Passing on to Industries, the Development Department has not much concern evidently with anything connected with Kurnool district, as is evidenced from the budget. I would appeal to the hon. Minister to favour us with one or two agricultural banks as the ryot population is most handicapped in their work on account of their great indebtedness and as their whole land is practically in the hands of Komati sowcars. Agricultural banks alone, I think, can emancipate them from their helplessness.

"One other point I wish to make a reference to for the information of the hon. the Minister for Development. I find in the budget that a joint registrar is going to be appointed and that the place is likely to be given to a man who has almost completed his service. I also learn that he is going to be granted an extension of one year merely with a view to give him a chance of getting the new post. I hope the hon. Minister will bear in mind and prevent the violation of the communal Government Order and consequent righteous heart-burning.

"Then, Sir, the Labour department has not got Kurnool district in their books and has not extended its activities to our district in respect of the Madigas, the Malas, Erikalas and others who are not so fortunate as Kallars and others inhabiting the favoured districts like Tanjore.

"I then pass on to Education. There is not a single college in the district of Kurnool. There are very few high schools and middle schools, and there are no technical schools of any kind. There are no public school buildings except very few. As a result, education is most backward and the natural consequence is that all our public offices are filled up by men from other districts and there is no public enterprise of any kind. And as an inevitable result of this there is nobody to sympathize with the sufferings of the people and there is nobody to get us Government help and Government sympathy without which nothing is possible. Tanjore owes its greatness to the existence of schools all over the district. The district has abundant facilities for education and that is why it is so great in its men and so rich in its resources and so powerful in its potentiality to exact anything it wants from Government. So also other districts like Guntur and Kistna. They are already rich; they are already strong; they are already prosperous. But still the budget provides abundant funds for improvement of education in these districts and comparatively very little for our district.

"Sir, it will not be out of place here if I make a passing reference to the allotment in the budget for appointing some deputy inspectors of schools newly. I should naturally expect the Government to bear in mind the equity of distributing the appointments in all the districts in the light of the Government Order relating to communal representation ; but a burnt cat dreads the fire. All my expectations on previous occasions ended in sore disappointment I may be permitted to cite one of them. When the introduction of the deputy inspectors scheme was under contemplation I apprehended that the few supervisors of schools who were residents of Kurnool district would be thown out of service or that their prospects would otherwise be affected. The whole district can claim only three or four of such supervisors as the sons of the soil and though unfortunately they were not technically qualified in an academical sense they were educationally, in the real sense of the word, men of high merits, and I was afraid that they might be asked to give room for L.T's. So to clear myself of the doubt I asked a question in this Council as to what should be done with those men when the deputy inspectors scheme came into force. The Government in unequivocal terms assured me that such of those men as were recommended to be fit for deputy inspectors' places would be appointed as deputy inspectors and that the District Officers were being asked to submit their recommendations. One man and only one in the whole district was recommended by the District Educational Officer as fit for being appointed as deputy inspector. He was appointed and naturally it was thought that the Government kept its word. But after his having put in a service of nearly half a dozen years as deputy inspector doing all the time excellent service to the satisfaction of his educational officers and to the satisfaction of the local boards within the limits of which he served, he is now informed that he should go and work as a teacher on less than half the salary which he has been drawing all these five or six years. There is still some hope that this injustice will not be allowed to continue long. This is how the assurances of Government in open Council are failing to command public confidence. This is why, without stopping with expectations as I should reasonably do, I appeal to the Government to see that the small number of men of my district qualified for deputy inspectors' places will be appointed as deputy inspectors in preference to men even of higher technical qualifications from other districts. This concession my district is certainly entitled to on account of its backwardness in education for which Government is surely responsible. May I make the humble suggestion that the District Educational Officers and the local board president of each district should be consulted in the choice of men for deputy inspectors' places before the appointments are actually made? I think the Government need not hesitate to accept the suggestion since there is absolutely no harm in doing so.

"Next, I appeal to the Government to reconsider the system of distributing provincial grants and put it on a more equitable basis allotting more funds to more backward districts, which ought to be the guiding principle of the Government till they see that all the districts come to more or less the same level in the matter of education.

"A few words more about communications and water-supply before I close. It is no exaggeration, Sir, if I should say that there are at present in my district some villages which are still using carts of very primitive type—

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carts without wheels—and there are villages where the existence of Government is not felt except in their being required to pay land revenue. They have had no roads or even improved rest-houses and they have had no wells sunk by the local boards or Government They appear to be Government-forsaken people. While there are men suffering like this in districts like Kurnool, the attention of the Government appears to be concentrated on making tarred roads and such other costly roads in places where luxury finds it difficult to move in motor-cars and in introducing pipe systems in places situated on the banks of rivers like the Cauvery. In this connexion I wish to make a reference to a resolution which I wanted to move in this Council some time ago but could not do for some reasons. The Kurnool District Board has with it an accumulated railway cess amounting to nearly nine lakhs of rupees. If it should not be the motto of the Government to help those that can help themselves and if it should be the intention to help those that since the very advent of the British Government have not been till now helped with any funds for improvement of communications, I should very much like that the district board should be asked to utilize the amount at its disposal in improving the rural cart-tracks instead of laying a small railway line which would benefit only officials and merchants The amount that has been granted this year for the improvement of rural communication to the Markapur Taluk Board of which I am the President is something like a mustard thrown in to fill up an ocean. Here also I appeal to the Government to reconsider the principle which governs the distribution of provincial grants to various local boards and put it on a equitable basis so as to ensure improvement where improvement is really needed, where real want is to be satisfied and not where luxury is to be satisfied.

"I have already taxed your patience by a lengthy speech and I shall conclude by making a general appeal to the Government. My district is purely an agricultural district with very poor natural facilities. Our wants are very limited. We do not ask for electrical installations; we do not ask for motor services; we do not ask for tarred roads or any other luxuries. We ask for simple facilities for carrying on our humble agricultural operations without any trouble and for earning what are required for our bare existence. We want our tanks should be improved; we want a few wells for drinking water; we want to get from our forests agricultural implements and timber necessary for dwelling houses. We want to graze our cattle in our forests without destroying the forest except perhaps in the sense in which it is understood by such forest officers as think that the whole village should be satisfied if half a dozen of them are supplied with carts and other agricultural implements. We want various forests to be disafforested; we want lands for cultivation in the forest; we want our sons to be given facilities for education; we want that a few of our men who are already educated should find appointments in our district so that we may have the consolation that there are at least a few sons of the soil to safeguard and advance our interests. We want also that the number of village panchayats should be increased and we want a few other similar things. I appeal to the Government to pay due consideration to these humble wants and see that we are treated at least with a hundredth of the love and sympathy extended to favoured districts like Tanjore. We always implore and not threaten and let not Government in their distribution of favours make it appear that only threats can exact favours and not entreaties or pleadings or appeals."

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* Mr. P. C. MUTHU CHETTIYAR :—" Sir, வரவுசெலவு திட்ட மசோதாவைப்பற்றி சிறிது சொல்ல நினைக்கிறேன். பெரும்பாகம் சொல்வதற்கு இடமிருப்பினும் அதின் பலனை எதிர்பார்க்க முடியாது. 16-வது பக்கம் Court-fees--Sales—Stamps சுமார் 1½ கோடி ஆகிறது. இதானது ஏற்கனவே உள்ள ஸ்டாம்பு duty அதிகமென எண்ணி வருந்திவருகையில் 100-க்கு 50 வீதம் அதிகப்படுத்தி temporary போன்ற ஏற்பாட்டை இன்னும் ரத்துசெய்யாமல் மறுபடியும் இந்த திட்டத்தில் தயண்டு வருவது கவர்ன்மெண்டார் ஜனங்களின் க்ஷேமத்தைக் கருதுவதாகவும் கொண்டாடுவதாகவும் சொல்லப் பொருந்தாது. அதின் பலன் நாளுக்கு நாள் பெருங் கெடுதலை விளைவிக்கும். ஜனங்கள் சீக்கிரத்தில் வறுமையாய் விடுவார்கள். கடன் கொடுக்கமுடியாத நிலைமையில் உள்ளவர்களுக்கு இது எம்மாதிரி துன்பத்தை தரும்! ஆகவே இந்த அதிக வரியைக் குறைத்துவிடவேண்டும். அப்படி குறைத்துவிட்டால் வரும்படிக்கு வகைசொல்ல hon. Finance Member கேட்பார்கள். அதின் செலாவணி என்மட்டும் சொல்லத் தயாராயிருக்கிறேன்.

" Judicial கோர்ட்டுகளைப்பற்றி—ஸப் கோர்ட்டு விஷயங்களில் இப்போது நான் சொல்லத் தயாராயில்லை. முன்ஸீப் கோர்ட்டுகளை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளுவோம். கண்டகண்டபடி சில கிராமங்களில் துக்கடியாகப் போட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அதாவது ஜனங்களுக்கு சௌக்கியமாயும் லாபகரமாயும் கவர்ன்மெண்டார் செய்திருப்பதாக அபிப்ராயம். அனுபவத்தில் அப்படி ஒத்துக்கொள்ளமுடியாது. அநேக இடங்களில் town அல்லது mufassal இல் வசிக்கப் பிரியப்படாத சில வக்கீல்கள் இன்னும் சில தன்மையுடையவர்களுக்கு அது அநுகூலமே ஒழிய கக்ஷிக்காரருக்காவது சாக்ஷிகளுக்காவது ஸௌகரியம் தரத்தக்கதல்ல. ஏனென்றால், அதற்கு சம்மந்தமுள்ளவர்களெல்லாம் பெரிய town லும் அதை அனுசரித்தும் சில பார்டிகள் அசலூரிலிருந்து வந்தாலும் town இல் தங்கி அங்கு ஓர் தினம் ஜாகைசெய்து அனுபவமுள்ள வக்கீல் ஓர் லாயக்கான மோட்டாரும் கக்ஷிக்காரர் சாக்ஷிகளுக்கு ஓர் மோட்டாரும் day fees ம் படிகளும் அதிக செலவும் செய்து process ஸர்வர்களுக்கும் அவ்விதமே அதிக செலவு செய்து அவர்கள் படும் துன்பமும் செலவிற்கும் அளவில்லை.

3 p.m. " ஒன்றை உதாரணமாக குறிப்பிடுகிறேன். மதுரைக்கு 18 மைல் சமீபத்திலுள்ள மேலூரில் ஒரு முன்ஸீப் கோர்ட்டு சமீபமாக ஏற்படுத்தியிருக்கிறார்கள். அதற்கு எல்லை வரம்பு மதுரை டவுனுக்குச் சேர்ந்த பெரிய தெப்பக்குளம் சேர்க்கையான அயிலானூர் வரையிலும் 10, 12 மைல் வடமேற்கில் தூரமுள்ள சிறுவாலை, சமயநல்லூர், அலங்காநல்லூர் வரையிலும் எல்லை புத்திசாலிகளால் வகுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இதனாலேயே ஒரு தாலூகாவிலுள்ள முன்ஸீப் கோர்ட்டிற்கு வேலை இல்லாததால், பல தாலூகா எல்லைகளை கற்றறிந்த தன்மையில் சேர்த்துவிட்டார்கள். அவர்கள் காலமானவர்களாகச்சே அவர்களை குறிப்பிட்டு சொல்லுவது புண்ணியமாகாது.

" மதுரையிலுள்ள அந்தந்த தாலூகா முன்ஸீப்கோர்ட்டிற்கு சேர்க்காமல் வேறு பல கோர்ட்டு நம்பர்களை transfer செய்து பறிமாறுகிறார்கள். கொஞ்சமும் அனுபவமுள்ளவர்களை ஆலோசிக்கிறதில்லை. District அதிகாரிகள் நோட்டீசுக்கு சரியானபடி புலப்படுத்துகிறதில்லை.

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இம்மாதிரி அநேக ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. ஒரு கம்மிட்டி ஏற்படுத்தி ஆலோசிக்கும் முன்னடி இந்த கோர்ட்டு jurisdiction ஒழித்துவிடவேண்டும்.

"Process server களைக் குறைக்க:—148-வது பக்கத்தில் நாஜர், அமீன், பியூன்கள் 159 × சுமார் 9,000 நபர்களுக்கு 18½ லட்சம் திட்டம் போட்டிருக்கிறது. அமீன், process server களால் கட்சிக்காரர்களுக்கு பெருங் கஷ்டமும் நஷ்டமும் ஏற்படுகிறது என்பது இந்த House தெரிந்த விஷயம். அதைத் திருத்தவேணுமென்று எந்தவிதத்திலும் முடியாத விஷயம் ஒருவகை செய்து பார்க்கலாம். அது ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லாவாக யோசிக்கலாம். ஒரு non-official மெம்பரை சேர்க்கைசெய்து வைக்கவேண்டும். அதாவது கொஞ்சம் பொருப்புள்ளவர்களாயும் தெரிந்தெடுத்து அதிக சம்பளத்தில் மோட்டார் பைக் convenience கொடுத்தும் டவுனுக்கு சில பேரும் வெளியூருக்கு சில பேருமாக ஏற்படுத்தி ஏராளமான நபர்களைக் குறைத்து விடுவதினால் வேலைச்சல்விசும், நம்பிக்கையும், கட்சிக்காரர்களுடைய நன்மையும் உண்டாகலாம். இதனால் செலவு குறைய மார்க்கமாகும்.

"35-வது பக்கம், unclaimed deposit.—இது ஓர் பெரிய நியாயமில்லாத ஐடமாகக் கூறுகிறேன். சுமார் 4½ லட்சத்திற்குமேல் ஜனங்களுடைய பணத்தை எடுத்துக்கொள்வதாக ஏற்படுகிறது. தொகையைப் பற்றி எவ்விதமிருப்பினும் அதைப்பற்றி விவாதமில்லை. நியாயத்தைப் பற்றிமட்டும் நான் பேசுகிறேன். ஜனங்கள் சொஸ்திக்குறைவு அஜாக்ரதையினால் நீதியையுடைய ராஜாங்கத்தார் அவர்களுக்கு சேர்த்துவிடும் வகை அறியாமல் ஸர்க்காருக்கு credit செய்வது நீதியாகுமா? இது ஒரு வரும்படி என்று இந்த House எண்ணலாமா?

"ஆனால் ஸர்க்கார் பணத்தை வாபீஸ் வாங்குவது கட்சிக்காரருக்கு ப்ரயாசையும், அவர்கள் கேட்கும் சம்பந்தமில்லாத பல விபரங்களையும், பல பங்காளிகளையும் மீண்டு ப்ரயாசையுடன் வாங்குவது சகஜமாயிருந்தாலும் அநேகர்கள் முடியாமலும், தெரியாமலும் காலம்கடந்தும் வாரஸுகளுக்குத் தெரியாமலும் போய்விடுகிறது.

"எல்லா ஆபீஸ்களிலும் பணம் டிபாஸிட்டானாலும் வாபீஸாகவேண்டிய ஸரியான காலத்தை கஜானாவில் மாற்றத்தகுந்த ஒரு செக்கையே நேர்கட்சிக்காரர்களுக்கே தாமதமின்றி கட்சிக்காரன் செலவில் ரிஜிஸ்தர் செய்து அனுப்பிவிட ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டும்.

"அநேகம் பணங்களை வாபீஸ் வாங்கமுடியாமல் என் அனுபவத்தில் விட்டிருக்கிறது. பணத்தைக் கொடுத்தவனுக்கு திருப்பிக்கொடுக்க வேணுமென்ற நியாயம் விட்டுப்போய்விடும். சில சமஸ்தானத்திலும் அம்மாதிரி விட்டிருக்கிறதாகத் தெரிந்திருக்கிறேன்.

"ரிகார்டுகளை வாபீஸ் செய்யாமல் பரிகரிப்பதுகூடாது.—கோர்ட்டுகளில் கக்ஷிக்காரர்கள் தாக்கல் செய்கிற தஸ்தாவேஜுகளை வாபீஸ் வாங்காவிடில் பரிகரிப்பது என்ற ஏற்பாட்டை முழுதும் மாற்றவேண்டும். வியவஹாரம் முடிவதானால் ஒரு மஹாமஹம் (12 வருஷம்) வரையில் நடக்கிறது. இதற்குள் நடக்கும் காரியங்களை சொல்ல இஷ்டமில்லை.

[Mr. P. C. Muthu Chettiyar] [5th March 1926

" ஸர்க்கார் ரிகார்டுகளை கோர்ட்டில் தாக்கல் செய்தால் அவைகளைத் திருப்பி அனுப்பிவிடுவதற்கு என்ன நியாயமிருக்கிறதோ அதைப் பார்க்கிலும் அதிகமான நியாயமும் அவசியமும் இருக்கிறதுடன் அவனுடைய சொத்தையோ, அவனுடைய எஸ்டேட்டையோ பாதுகாப்பதற்கு அது தான் உழித்தானதென்றும் இந்த House எண்ணலாம். ஆனதால் அப்படி தஸ்தாவேஜுகளை தாக்கல் செய்யும்போது அதற்குவேண்டிய போஸ்டல் ரிஜிஸ்தர் charge ஐ சேர்த்தே வாங்கிக்கொண்டு வாபீஸாக வேண்டிய காலத்தில் அவருடைய சரியான அட்ரஸுக்கு அவருடைய செலவில் போஸ்டு ரிஜிஸ்தர் மூலமாக சேர்ப்பிக்கவேண்டும். அதற்கு வேண்டிய தபால் செலவிற்கு வரவிற்கு இதில் ஒரு provision காணவேண்டும்.

" Water-supply.—மற்ற ஜில்லாக்களைப்பற்றி கனவான்கள் சொல்லியிருப்பார்கள். மதுரை ஜில்லாவில் தண்ணீர் ஸரபராவானது ரொம்ப வருந்தத் தக்கதென்பது தெரிந்த விஷயம். ஹானரபில் மினிஸ்டர்களை பெரும்பாலும் லோகல் போர்டு முனிஸிபாலிடித் தலைவர்கள் டவுனின் முக்கிய பாகத்தையும் காட்டி, தண்ணீர் தெளித்து அலங்கரித்துத் தெரு வழியே நடத்தி பெருமையை அதிகப்படுத்தி விடுவார்கள். இப்போது ஆனரபில் Chief Minister அவர்கள், பழனி தாலூகாவையும் அழகர் கோவிலையும் கண்ணுறும்படி அக்கிராமம் பாக்கியம் செய்துவிட்டது.

" இம்மாதிரி திருப்பரங்குன்றம், அவணியாபுரம், கம்பம், கூடலூர் முதலிய அநேகம் யூனியனுள்ள இடங்களையும், பெரிய கிராமங்களையும் அவர்கள் கண்ணுறும்படி அவைகள் பாக்கியம் செய்யவேண்டும். அப்படி நேர்ந்தால் இப்போது taluk போர்டுகளில் மழைகாலத்தில் தானியம் கொட்டி வைக்கும்படியான நிலைமையிலும் பலரும் உய்விக்க பல கிணறை வெட்டி வீணுக பணத்தைச் செலவிடாது தகுந்த ஒருகிணறை அதற்குவேண்டிய பரிட்சக சாஸ்திரிகளுடனும் யந்திரங்களுடனும் hand pump வைத்து பைப் வழியாக ஜலங்களை சரபரா செய்வதற்கு வேண்டிய ஏற்பாடு செய்வதற்கும் வேண்டிய பொருளுதவிகள் இதில் கவனிக்கப்பட்டதாயில்லை. Water-supply க்கென்று கொஞ்சம் கொஞ்சம் கொடுத்ததாக பேர்செய்வது பொடி போட்டதுபோல் ஆய்விடும். அப்படிக்கில்லாமல் ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லாவாவது திருப்தியடையும்படி உதவிபுரிய எண்ணவேண்டும். இங்கிருக்கும் ஆனரபில் போக் துரை அவர்களும் இந்த ஜில்லாவின் நடவடிக்கை நன்றாக அறிவார்கள்.

" சுமாராய் மதுரை ஜில்லாவுக்கென்று சில வருஷங்களுக்கு வருஷம் ஒன்றுக்கு 3 அல்லது 2 லட்சத்திற்கு குறைவில்லாது இதற்கென்று Budget இல் ஒதுக்கவேண்டும்.

" Rural Medical என்பது அவசியமென்று சொல்வதற்கு இப்போதிருக்கிற மாதிரியில் தேவையில்லை. அதற்குத்தகுந்த பயனைத் தராது. ஆனால் ஸ்கூல் குழந்தைகளின் health உம் அபிவிருத்தியையும் கவனிக்க rural medical அவசியமென்று scheme கொண்டுவர உத்தேசமாயிருந்தேன். அதற்கென்று அந்த ஐடத்தை உபயோகிப்பது ரொம்ப நியாயமாகவும் உபயோகமாகவும் இருக்கும். இந்த விஷயத்தில் ஆனரபில் Educational Minister ம் வற்புறுத்தி எண்ணவேண்டும்.

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" ஸ்கூல் Supervisor ஸம்பந்தமாய்.—பிரதம ஸ்கூல்களின் நிலைமையை உயர்த்துவதற்கு எண்ணமும் உதவிசெய்தும் வருகிற கவர்ன்மெண்டார் districtகளிலிருந்து வரும் சில அபிப்ராயத்தை சரியான ஆலோசனையின்றி G.O. pass செய்து அனுப்பிவிடுவது அதன் நன்மையைக் குறைத்துவிடுமோவென்று யோசிக்கிறேன். Education வரியை ஜனங்கள் கொடுக்கத் துணிந்தும் Supervisor தாலூகா போர்டார் நியமிப்பதில் ரத்துசெய்ய Education ஆபீஸர்கீழ் ஸபார்டினேட்டுகளின் 3-15 p.m.
உரிமைக்கு இடம் கொடுப்பதாகும். தாலூக் போர்டு அதிகாரிகளிடத்தில் அவநம்பிக்கை இருக்குமேயானால் லோகல் போர்டுகளையே abolish செய்து ஒன்றாக்கிவிடுகிற ஆலோசனையை தாமதிக்காமல் நினைப்பது ஒருக்கால் பொருத்தமாக இருக்கலாம். கட்டிக்கொண்டு இருக்கும்வரை சரியாக maintain பண்ணவேண்டிய கடமையை மாற்றுவது தகுதியற்றதாயிருக்கிறது.

"ரோட்டுகளின் Grant இந்த வருஷத்தில் குறைக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது.

"Local Board Land Acquisition.—லோகல் போர்டுகளுக்கு லாண்டுகள் அக்விஸிஷன் செய்கிற procedure சில சங்கடங்கள் இருப்பதை ஆக்டு அமெண்டுமெண்டு செய்ய விரும்ப வேண்டியிருக்கிறது. ஆனால் ரெவின்யூ தரப்பில் acquisition செய்கிற நடவடிக்கையானது ரொம்ப தாமதமாயும் ஏற்பட்ட allotment ஐ அந்தந்த காலத்தில் செலவிட முடியாமலும் போய்விடுகிறது. ஆக்டுபடி கலெக்டர் அவர்களால் acquisition செய்யவேண்டியிருப்பதால் அந்த அதிகாரத்தை டிஸ்டிரிக்ட் போர்டு ப்ரெஸிடெண்டுகளுக்கு கொடுக்கப்படாதா? அப்படி முடியாவிடில் ஒரு ஜில்லா அல்லது ஜில்லாவிற்கு acquisition ஆபீஸராக டிப்டி தாஸில்தார், தாஸில்தார் கிரேடில் ஒருவரை நியமிக்க திட்டத்தில் ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டும்."

*Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"The Council ought to appreciate highly the immense labour and care involved in the preparation of the budget estimate and the rare lucidity with which it was explained by the hon. the Finance Member. But the policy and programme of the Government as disclosed by the figures in regard to both the political and economic progress of the country rouses a feeling of despair. The statements placed before the House on the basis of constitutional reforms classification show only how the Council is clipped of some of its constitutional wings, few as they were. So that some of the old votable grants have become non-votable or non-touchable or untouchable (Laughter). The Government have taken full advantage of their powers of restoration of many of the cuts made by the Council in the last budget and to shelve some of its resolutions, to mention only two for which I myself was responsible. The first is as to the remission of assessment of double crop lands having only one crop in flood-affected areas in South Kanara, and the second is as to the time-scale salaries of unpassed men certified by heads of offices but subsequently withdrawn by Government in a manner worthy of an inhuman despotic power. The real anxiety of Government is to find more money for higher services than for the absolute requirements of the lower services or for the economic development of the people. For instance, the lower subordinate police is to be

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reduced to the great prejudice of maintenance of order and peace while there is an increase in grant for the superior police services. A resurvey hardly necessary—and a resettlement unwarranted—of the South Kanara district had been entered into in a stealthy manner without taking the public or their representatives into confidence, a proceeding deservedly described as 'prowling', so dreaded as it is like the prowling of wild animals so common in the district. Several industries, notably at Mangalore as well as Madras, are being throttled out of existence on account of financial stringency—e.g., the tile factories in Mangalore and South Indian Industrials at Madras—without any sympathetic move from Government under the State Aid Industries Act or otherwise. When European Industries are threatened with financial ruin, we have got a spectacle of the Imperial Bank and the Government coming to their rescue. But I should like to know what move has been made by our hon. Minister for Development to rescue the several industries in Kanara and in Madras and elsewhere from ruin. What response was received by them from the Imperial Bank or from the Finance department? With the same spirit of apathy, Government succeeded in doing little for the relief of lepers under the operation of the Indian Lepers Act as amended by a later Act to make it applicable in all stages of leprosy.

3-30 p.m. "I am simply surprised to find that the hon. the Chief Minister does not know the existence of the Act which has amended the old Act, making it applicable to all stages of the disease. The Government have not been able even to go half way to accept the right hand of self-help offered by the public of South Kanara who came forward with a generous subscription for a good women's hospital which they feel is so badly needed at Mangalore. The Government have practically refused the grant this year, though the need for the hospital is so urgent and pressing. One who has seen the present building can realize the condition of the existing hospital, with so many women huddled together in a few small rooms. And after all the trouble that we took to collect so much money from all the people, Rs. 28,000, and even though we placed that money at the disposal of the Government, still the Government does not come forward with a single pie for this year even, while lots of Government money could be found for glorious tours and other costly extravagances. Agricultural and industrial education in this presidency is important but the advance made is as puny as it is peurile. Hardly any facilities are offered for apprenticeships or any sort of education being imparted in Government industrial schools. It is stated in the administration report that these industries have got educational value. I should like to know what educational value these industries have and how they are going to help the development of industries in the country. The forest policy of the Government threatened with extinction several villages in South Kanara and measures proposed for saving them are receiving tardy recognition, with a process of forest panchayat system moving in a provokingly slow fashion without any decrease in the expenditure on the forest superior services. I do not wish to dwell largely on this because my hon. Friends on this side of the House have already dealt with it sufficiently, and also as I shall have to deal with it in detail at the time of voting of grants. In the forest spheres with malaria raging wild there were no adequate facilities for getting quinine free or at the old cheap rates as promised. I do not know if any action has been taken in the matter as promised by the hon. the Home Member to distribute this quinine free

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through agencies, not through only one agency, the Post office, but through several agencies, the tahsildars, deputy collectors, village officers, missionaries and others. With all the scientific methods adopted and care taken by the distillers' company under the supervision of Messrs. Parry & Co., in the production and despatch of liquor, good liquor (hear, hear), there is need in South Kanara for greater supervision in retail sales. If poor people have to drink liquor adulterated with poison as well as with water, the blame cannot be laid on distillers, but on Government officials who cannot attend to their work with sufficient care or make honest efforts to supervise over the sales and the quality of liquor sold."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" What about the sample bottle ? " (Laughter)

* Mr J. A. SALDANHA :—" I shall drink it to the health of the hon. the Minister. "

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" The sample bottle was furnished to him, Sir, in order to improve the quality of liquor " (cries of ' Order, order ').

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Poor people are not able to purchase liquor and rum of very high quality and matured for some years, but all drinkers will be thankful to the hon. the Minister for furnishing them with such good liquor at a sufficiently low price. It is to be hoped at the same time, Sir, that until total prohibition is enforced, there would be free trade and national industrialization in the production of liquor and other things from various neglected products and their wastes, just as they do in any other country, in the European countries. I hope my hon. Friends on the other side of the House are really earnest in their prohibition policy, but from what I know of their opinions, I am afraid we shall have to wait till Doomsday if we want to see them give effect to their policy of prohibition. In their sphere of operations, I hope they will allow free trade in liquor as is done with so much success and advantage in several European countries. In regard to this matter, I want to say this that the demand is that all sorts of liquors should be allowed to be manufactured under the system of free trade."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" May I interrupt ? May I ask my hon. Friend what he means by ' free trade ' in liquor, whether he wants free manufacture without any licences or other restrictions ? Does he want everybody should have the liberty of manufacturing liquor anywhere and everywhere ? "

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I never thought of allowing the manufacture of liquor without licence. On the other hand, I would like the hon. the Minister to follow Great Britain which at present obtains a revenue of, I think, £120 millions sterling with all sorts of restrictions as to licences, rents and other matters. Let us have as much rent as possible, let us have as much income as possible and as many restrictions as possible. But at the same time let the people have freedom in the production of liquor to that extent at least as is obtaining in England, in Scotland, and in Ireland. If they are able to produce liquors of all kinds, why not India have the same system ? Why should not India have the freedom of producing its own good and pure liquors ? With regard to pure salt, we got insulting replies rom the hon. the Finance Member when I asked him why we should not

have pure salt. He referred to an administration report on salt administration, wherein there is a statement made that Indians prefer to have earth mixed with salt; the report says 'salt smacking of mother earth'. Well, Sir, I think that that is a very insulting insinuation to us, Indians. That is the spirit of the policy of the British Government which acts without any regard to our needs in this matter. This is not the case only with liquor but with all other industries. There is no other thing so beneficial as a spirit of earnest intention to encourage industries. Now, of course comes the Agricultural Commission intended to encourage agriculture. I do not know how this Commission is going to help agriculture at all, or to improve it. I do not think anything will come out of it. But that is, however, by the way.

"In regard to co-operative societies, there is need for allowing more spontaneous and autonomous development of agricultural and industrial societies than is possible under the present somewhat superfluous interference of the official authorities. The need for a Joint Registrar is not sufficiently established. It is an agency which is unnecessary and which is likely to work more towards interference with the free development of co-operative societies.

"So far as Indian Christians are concerned, they ought to be represented in the Cabinet (hear, hear), and ought to be represented more adequately in the local bodies and other institutions and services, because of their great advance in education as well as in proportion to their numerical strength, while their religious susceptibilities as to religious education should be duly respected. I have got a Bill on the latter subject, namely, religious education. But as to the other point of representation, I do not think I need largely dwell upon it because it has been discussed here. I had once brought forward a resolution which I withdrew. The principle for which I claimed acceptance was justice to the Indian Christian community. We, Indian Christians, so far as general literacy is concerned, have got 16 per cent of literates, whereas among Hindus it is about 8 per cent, and among Muhammadans 9 per cent. Among English literates, we have got 5 per cent, whereas the percentage is only ½ among Muhammadans and 1 among Hindus. Of course, the Brahmans stand higher than ourselves in literacy, owing to their hard work and greater endeavour. And we must give them credit for their advancement. On the other hand, we Indian Christians imitated the Brahmans, and I think we deserve preference, more because our advance has been accomplished with much more sacrifice. I do not care for communalism but I stand on justice. We ought to have had long ago a seat in the Cabinet (hear, hear). I will not go into the figures. I have got a lot of statements on the subject which I shall place before the Government.

"I shall sit down with this appeal finally. Whatever we utter here is said in vain. For three years I have cried in vain, and I must say that our oratory and our eloquence have been all wasted ('hear, hear' and laughter), and we have gained nothing in this Council. I have done practically little, and I am afraid none can do anything as our constitution stands at present, except getting, as I have already said, more of untouchable items in our budget estimates."

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* Mr. N. DEVENDRUDU :—"గౌరవనీయులగు అగ్రాసనాధిపా! విద్యాశాఖ మంత్రిగారు—స్కూలు వుపాధ్యాయుల జీతములు రూ. 20, 15, 12, 10 లు గా బడ్జెట్టులో కనుపర్చియున్నది. పదిరూపాయలు ఒక మనిషి జీవించుటకే చాలదు. టీచరు కుటుంబమును పోషించుటకు ఏల సరిపోవును. కావున ఈ రోజులలో కూలి మనిషి రోజుకు 1 కి అణా 8 లు అధమపక్షము యిస్తేగాని రాడు. ఇట్టి స్థితిలో టీచరు రూ 10 లకు పనిచేయుట అంటే చాలా అన్యాయము ప్రథమము ఎలిమెంటరీ వుపాధ్యాయులవద్దనుంచె గదా ఈ పెద్ద వుద్యోగస్థులు అంతా వచ్చియున్నారు. అట్టి స్థితిలో వుపాధ్యాయులకు అధమపక్షము రూ 20 లకు తక్కువలేకుండా ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఏర్పాటుచేస్తారని నమ్ముతున్నాను.

"ఈ విద్యాశాఖ డిపార్టుమెంటులో స్కూలుఫీసు సఖము పుచ్చుకొమ్మని యిదివరకే 3-45 p.m. ప్రభుత్వమువారు జి.ఒ. ప్యాసుచేసియున్నారు కాని దానివల్ల పేదలైన ఆదిమాంధ్రులకున్నూ, డిప్రస్డు క్లాసు పిల్లలకున్నూ విద్య అలవడుట చాలా దుర్లభము. పైన పేర్కొనిన పేదబిడ్డల యందు తల్లిదండ్రులు ఆశపెట్టుకొనియుందురు. సాధారణముగా ఈ పేదబిడ్డలు 8 సంవత్సరములు వయస్సురాగానే కాపువద్ద పశువుల కాపరిగనో లేక తదితర పనిగనో నెల 1 కి రూ 3, 4 లకు పనిచేయుచుందురు. ఆ సొమ్ము తల్లితండ్రులకు సహాయకారిగాయుండును. అటులనేక పేద కుటుంబములు పోషించుకొనుచున్నారు. ఇట్టి స్థితిలో సఖం జీతం యిచ్చి చదువుకోమంటే చాలా కష్టముగాన చదువుకోరు. ఇందువల్లనే హిజ్ హైనెస్ దిమహారాజా, మైసూరు గవర్నమెంటువారు డిప్రస్డు క్లాసులకు విద్యాదానము చేయుటకు పూర్తి అయిన పట్టుదలతో పేదబిడ్డలు సంపాదించు ద్రవ్యము, తల్లిదండ్రులకు యిస్తూ, బట్టలు, పుస్తకములు, అన్నము యిచ్చి విద్య నేర్పిస్తుయున్నారు. ఇదేమాదిరి బరోడా మహారాజావారు చేయుటకు పూనుకొన్నారు. ఇట్టి మహారాజులే ఆమాదిరి విద్యాదానం చేయుటకు పూనుకోగా, మన బ్రిటిష్ ప్రభుత్వములో పేద పిల్లలను సఖం జీతం యిచ్చి, చదువుకోమని చెప్పుట యీ దయార్ద్ర ప్రభుత్వమునకు సరికాదనిన్నీ, యెలిమెంటరీ పాఠశాల మొదలు కాలేజీవరకున్ను డిప్రస్డు క్లాసు బిడ్డలకు ఫ్రీగా విద్యచెప్పుటకున్నూ, అందు బొత్తిగా పేదలకు అన్నవస్త్రములు, పుస్తకములు ఇచ్చి విద్యనేర్పుటకు ఆర్డర్లు వేయగలందులకు కోరుచున్నాను. సమస్తానాధీశులకు వున్న ఆదరణ దయ ఈ ప్రభుత్వము ఈ విషయములో చూపనందునకు చింతిల్లుతూ యికనయినను తగు ఏర్పాట్లు చేస్తారని నమ్ముచున్నాను.

"ఘనతవహించిన నయిజాము గవర్నమెంటుయున్న నిమ్న జాతులకు, మహారాజా మైసూరు గవర్నమెంటువలె చేయుటకు ప్రయత్నములు జరుగుచున్నట్లు వినుచున్నాను. కావున విద్యాశాఖ ప్రభుత్వను ఈ విషయం బాగా దీర్ఘాలోచనచేసి సరియైన ఆదరణ నిమ్నజాతులకు చేస్తారని నమ్ముచున్నాను.

"లేబరు డిపార్టుమెంటు.—డిస్ట్రిక్టు లేబరు ఆఫీసర్లు ప్రెసిడెన్సీలో 14 గురు మాత్రమే యున్నట్లు బడ్జెట్టులో వేసియున్నారు. అధమపక్షము, జిల్లాకు ఒకరినైనను నియమించుట సమంజసము. అందువల్లనే కొన్ని జిల్లాలలో డిస్ట్రిక్టు లేబరు ఆఫీసరు లేనందువల్లను డిప్రస్డు క్లాసుల కొరతలు తీరకయున్నవి. ఈ డిపార్టుమెంటు ఆంధ్రదేశములో బొత్తిగా లేక పేదలయిన ఆదిమాంధ్రులం పొందుచున్న యిక్కట్లు చెప్పినలవికాకయున్నవి.

"కావున ప్రభుత్వమువారు అరవ దేశములో కళ్లర్లకు రూ 3,03,600 లు వార్ల అభివృద్ధికొరకు యిచ్చియున్నారు. అంతకంటె హీనదశలోయున్న ఆంధ్రదేశ మాదిమాంధ్రులకు యేమి యివ్వనందున ఆంధ్రులకు ప్రభుత్వమువారు అన్యాయము చేసినారని చెప్పక తప్పనది

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కానందుకు చింతిల్లుచున్నాను. పశ్చిమ గోదావరి జిల్లాలో లేబరు డిపార్టుమెంటు ఎందుకు పెట్టలేదని శ్రీప్రభుత్వమువారిని అడుగగా లేబరు కమిషనర్ గారిని అడుగమని వ్రాసియున్నారు. సహజముగా ప్రభుత్వమువారు నిమ్న జాతులను బాగుచేయదలచినచో యితర కర్చులు వగయిరాలు తగ్గించుకొని తప్పక ప్రతి జిల్లాయందు ప్రాపగాండావర్కు చేయకపోయినయెడల పేదలు బాగుపడరు. అథమపక్షము 3 జిల్లాలు అయినను ఒక ఆనరరీలేబరు ఆఫీసరును అయినను ఏర్పాటుచేసిన బాగుండును. ఆదిమాంధ్రులు అయిన తమ సోదరులయొక్క యోగక్షేమం విచారించి కష్టసుఖములు డిపార్టుమెంటువారికి తెలుపుచూయుందురు. అందుపైన త్వరలో అభివృద్ధి కాగలదు. గ్రామాదులలో ఆరోగ్యము, శుచి, శుభ్రత, సరియైన మార్గములు, మంచినీళ్ల సదుపాయములు చాలాతక్కువగాయున్నవి. అవి అన్ని త్వరగా నెరవేర్చగలరని నమ్ముచున్నాను.

“ చెన్నపట్నంలోనున్ను, బందరులోనున్ను యున్న ఆస్టలులో ప్రస్తుతం 50మంది పిల్లలకు లోపలనే చేర్చుకొనుచున్నారు. కాని అంత తృప్తికరంగాలేదు గావున తప్పక 100 మందిని ఆస్టలులో చేర్చుటకు ఆర్డరున్నూ, సరియైన ఆదరణ జరుగులాగున విచారణకర్తలనున్నూ నిర్మించవలయును. అందు చేరిన పిల్లలకు, ఉచిత విద్యయున్నూ, పుస్తకములున్నూ, బట్టలున్నూ ఉచితంగా యిచ్చులాగున యేర్పాటుచేయుటకున్ను ఇదేమాదిరి ఆడబిడ్డలకు ఒక్క ఆస్టలున్నూ ఏర్పాటుచేయుటకున్నూ కోరుచున్నాను.

“ లా డిపార్టుమెంటు.—పోలీసు, సివిలు కోర్టులు, రివిన్యూ డిపార్టుమెంటు వుద్యోగములు జవాను పోస్టుమొదలు, పై వుద్యోగములవరకు, ఆయా పనులకు తగినవారికి వారలు అప్లికేషను పెట్టగానే విచారించి ముందు నిమ్న జాతులకు యివ్వమని ఆర్డరు యిదివరకు వున్నప్పటికిన్నీ ఆయా జిల్లాధికార్లు కొందరు మిలిటరీవారికి యివ్వవలసినదనిన్నీ ఇంకా కొందరు యితరులకు యిస్తూవున్నారు. మిలిటరి వుద్యోగస్థులు ఆదిమాంధ్రులు వున్నవారలకు యిచ్చుటలేదు. ఎందువల్లననగా పై పేర్కొనబడిన డిపార్టుమెంటు అధికార్లు బ్రాహ్మను, నాన్ బ్రాహ్మను వుద్యోగస్థులు యుందురు. ఈ జవానులు సాధారణముగా ఆఫీసరుల యిండ్లవద్దనున్న పనులు అన్ని చేయుట ఆచారమవుటవల్ల అంటుదోషము అనేకట్ల అడ్డముగా వుండుటచేత అంటుదోషముగల కులమువారు జవానుపనికి పనికిరారని యివ్వడములేదు. ఈమాదిరి మా జిల్లాలో 2, 3 కేసులు జరిగినవి. మిలిటరీవారికి నవుకరులు యిచ్చినది శ్రీ కలెక్టరుగారు, దిగువ వుద్యోగస్థులు పనికిరారని వ్రాస్తే మళ్లి మానిపించినారు. ఈ పైన వుదహరించిన విషయములన్నియు ఇందున్న హానరబిల్ మెంబర్లు అందరు యెరుగుదురని నా నమ్మకము. కావున నేను కోరునది ఏమనగా ప్రభుత్వమువారు ముందు ఖాళీవున్న వుద్యోగముల నిమ్న జాతులవారికిచ్చి తర్వాత తక్కినవార్లకు యిచ్చేలాగున ఆర్డర్లు ప్యాసు చేస్తారని నమ్ముచున్నాను. మా కమ్యూనిటియందు యిద్దరుమాత్రమే గ్రాడుయేట్లు అయినారు. అందు వక్కరకు కోవాపరేటివు డిపార్టుమెంటులో అనేక పర్యాయములు డెవలెపుమెంటు మంత్రిగారిని బాధించగా కోవాపరేటివు సొసైటీలో అసిస్టంటు రిజిష్ట్రారుగా వేసినారు. అందుకు ప్రభుత్వమువారికి వందనములు చెల్లిస్తూ యున్నాను. రెండవవారు ప్రస్తుతం బందరులో పశ్చిమ గోదావరీ జిల్లా కలెక్టరు ఆఫీసులో క్లర్కుపని చేయుచున్నారు. కావున వారికిన్ని డిప్టీ తహసిల్‌దారు పని యిచ్చి మాకు ఆనందము కలిగించెదరని ప్రభుత్వమువారిని కోరుచున్నాను.

“ ఆనరరి బెంచి మేజిస్ట్రేట్ల వుద్యోగములు తెనుగు దేశములో బెంచి కోర్టువున్నచోట నిమ్న జాతులకు సరియైన రిప్రజంటేషను ఇవ్వడములేదు. ప్రతి బెంచి కోర్టువున్న గ్రామంలో మాకు ప్రాతినిధ్యము యుండులాగున గమనించవలసినది. తప్పక ఒక్క సీటు యిచ్చే ఏర్పాటు చేయించవలసినదిగా కోరుచున్నాను. మా యేలూరు గ్రామంలో బెంచి కోర్టులో మా రిప్రజంటే

5th March 1926] [Mr. N. Devendrudu]

షను లేకపోతే నేను స్వయముగా ఆనరబిల్ సర్ సి. పి. రామస్వామి అయ్యరుగారికి వ్రాయగా నా మొర ఆలకించి న్యాయము కలుగజేసినందుకు వందనములు చెల్లిస్తూయున్నాను. ఏలూరు నందువున్న పాప్యులేషన్ 50,000 మందిలో మా కమ్యూనిటి నాల్గవవంతుయున్నాము. ఇది గాక యేలూరుకు మూడుమైళ్లలోయున్న గ్రామములు బెంచిలో కలిపినారు. అందువల్ల సదరు ఏలూరు బెంచిలో అధనుము మా రిప్రజంటేషను ముగ్గురు అయినను వుండవలయును గాన ప్రభుత్వమువారు న్యాయమైన దృష్టితో పరిశీలించి యిప్పుడువున్న మెంబరుగాక, యింకా యిద్దరును నామినేటు చేయించగలందులకు కోరుచున్నాను.

" రివిన్యూ డిపార్టుమెంటు.-- నిమ్న జాతులకు భంజరు భూములు, ఒట్టిపోయిన చెర్వులు, వీరి జీవనోపాధికొరకు, వుచితంగా యివ్వమని యిదివరకు జి.ఓ. పేసుచేసియున్నారు. ఆ ప్రకారం కొంతకొంతమందికి యిచ్చియున్నారు. ఈ యిచ్చినవాళ్లలో కొందరకు పట్టాలున్ను యిచ్చియున్నారు. శ్రీ ప్రభుత్వమువారివలన భూములు లభించనివార్లు యింకా అప్లికేషనులు చేస్తూనేయున్నారు. ఇచ్చినవారలలో కొందరికి పట్టాలు యిచ్చియుండలేదు. వాండ్లు పట్టాలకు యెదురుచూస్తూయున్నారు. ఈ స్థితిలో 1925 వ సంవత్సరం నవంబరులో ప్రతి జిల్లాకును, రివిన్యూ బోర్డువారు, ఒక జి.ఓ. పంపించియున్నారు. అందు యీ మాదిరిగాయున్నది : భంజరు భూములు నిమ్నజాతులు, సేద్యము చేయుచున్నవాటికి చుట్టుపట్ల రైతుల భూములు కిమ్మత్తుచూచి, ఆ ప్రకారం నిమ్నజాతులవద్ద, కిమ్మత్తు వసూలుచేసి యివ్వమని ఆర్డరులోయున్నది. ఉచితంగా యిచ్చేటిగాయుంటె ఆలాకూడా యివ్వమనియున్నది. అందుకైన, జిల్లా అధికార్లు, వారి అనుచర్లు, పట్టాలకు యెదురుచూస్తూయున్న నిమ్నజాతివార్లకు నోటీసులు జారీచేయించియున్నారు. శ్రీ ప్రభుత్వమువారు భంజరు భూములు 4, 3 ఏండ్ల క్రితము యిచ్చియున్నారు. మా వారు కూలిప్రజలుగాన సదరు భూములలోనే కాపురంగాయుండి, పురుషులు, స్త్రీలు, పిల్లలు అందరూ సదరు భూములకు మరామత్తులు చేసుకొని, బలము చేసుకొని యిప్పటికి కొద్దిగా ఫలసాయంకు తెచ్చుకున్నారు. ఈ స్థితిలో కరీదు యివ్వమనుట న్యాయముకాదని చెప్పుచున్నాను. ఇచ్చేటప్పుడు యే అభిప్రాయముతో యిచ్చినారు. ఇప్పుడు కష్టపడి అంతా బాగుచేసుకొన్న భూములకు కరీదు యెట్లు యివ్వమని పేసుచేసినారో తెలియుటలేదు. అట్లు చేయుట నిమ్న జాతులకు చాలా అన్యాయముగాన సదరు ఆర్డరును రద్దుపరచి పట్టాలు వుచితంగా యివ్వమని ఆర్డరు వేయించగలందులకున్ను, ఇంకా చాలామంది నిమ్నులు భంజరు భూములకై ప్రభుత్వమువారివంక, స్వాతివానలకు కాచిన ముత్యముచిప్పలరీతి కాచుకొనియున్నారు గాన, భూములు వున్నచోట్ల ప్రతి ఆదిమాంధ్రునకు, యకరం భూమికి తక్కువకాకుండా యివ్వమని ఆర్డరు వేయించగలందులకు కోరుచున్నాను. ఇంకను నిమ్నులకు కావలసిన ఆదరణలు అన్నియు వెంటనేచేసి ఆదరిస్తారని నమ్ముచున్నారు.

" లోకలు సెల్ఫు గవర్నమెంటు డిపార్టుమెంటు.—స్థానిక పరిపాలనాసంఘములలో, మా కొరకు, శ్రీ ప్రభుత్వమువారు యెన్ని సదుపాయములు యేర్పరచి జి.ఓ.లు ప్యాసుచేసినప్పటికిన్ని, మా ప్రతినిధులము, ఈ శాసనసభయందు యెన్నిసార్లు తెలియపర్చుచూయున్నప్పటికినీ న్యాయమైన ప్రాతినిధ్యము అన్నిజిల్లాలు, తాలూకా బోర్డులు, మ్యునిసిపాలిటీలయందు లభించలేదని చెప్పుటకు చింతిల్లుచున్నాను. గంజాము జిల్లాలో మా ప్రాతినిధ్యము, ఆదిమాంధ్రులకుగాక, యితరులకు మా తరుపున నామినేషనులు చేసియున్నారు. ఈ విషయము కవున్సిలులో ప్రశ్నలుయున్ను అడిగియున్నాము. విశాఖపట్నంలోను కొంత అదేమాదిరి జరిగినది. అదే మాదిరి ఆంధ్రదేశములోను, అరవదేశములోను జరుగుచున్నది. ఆదిమాంధ్రుల ప్రాతినిధ్యములు క్రయిస్తువులకు యిస్తూయున్నారు. అటుల జరుగకుండా మా ప్రాతినిధ్యములు మాకే యిచ్చులాగున గమనించి యిచ్చుటకును ఆయా గ్రామాదులలోను మా జనసంఖ్యనుబట్టి

[Mr. N. Devendrudu] [5th March 1926

వున్న నామినేషనులు, అధనంగా యిచ్చులాగునయున్న, తెనుగుదేశంలోగాని అరవదేశంలో గాని, ఆదిమాంధ్రసంఘములు రిజిష్టరు అయియున్నయెడల, ఆ జిల్లా సంఘ ప్రెసిడెంట్లను విచారించి, నామినేషనులు చేసినయెడల మా కమ్యూనిటీకి యేమి అన్యాయము కలుగదని నా నమ్మకం. గావున, ఆ ప్రకారం ప్రభుత్వమువారు చేస్తారని కోరుచున్నాను. ఎన్నికలలో రాగలిగినవార్లకు కూడా నామినేషను చేయుట చాలా అన్యాయము అనియున్న అందువల్ల నిమ్నజాతులకు నష్టము కలుగుచున్నదనియున్న మనవిచేయుచున్నాను. ఈ శాఖకు ప్రధానమంత్రిపుంగవులు ఆనరబిల్ పానగల్లు రాజావారు. మా నిమ్నజాతులకు చేయుచున్న వుపకారములకు వందనములు చెల్లిస్తూ, పై సంగతులు తమ దృష్టియందువుంచి న్యాయము కలుగచేస్తారని నమ్ముచున్నాను.

“ డెవలప్‌మెంటు డిపార్టుమెంటు.—ఈ శాఖ నిమ్నజాతులకు చాలా వుపకారం చేయవచ్చును. కాని యిప్పటికి యేమి జరుగలేదు. ముందు అయిన జరుగును అని నమ్ముచున్నాను.

“ జిల్లాలు, తాలూకాలలో కోఆపరేటివు సొసైటీలు విరివిగా స్థాపించగలందులకున్ను, అట్లు స్థాపించిన నిమ్నులకు అన్ని విధముల తోడ్పడి శ్వరలో అభివృద్ధి పొందగలరని నమ్ముచున్నాను. ఇందు యింకొక చిక్కుయున్నది: ఆదిమాంధ్ర సొసైటీలు, రుణము. మదరాసు క్రిష్టియన్ బ్యాంకులో తప్ప యితర బ్యాంకులలో రుణము పుచ్చుకొనకూడదనిన్ని నిమ్నజాతులకొరకే క్రిష్టియన్ బ్యాంకు పెట్టినారు కావున అచ్చటనే రుణము తీసుకోకతప్పదనిన్ని చెప్పుచున్నారు. ఇటుల కండితముగా రూలుచేసియుంచుట, ఆదిమాంధ్రసంఘముల అభివృద్ధికి భంగకరంగా యున్నది. శ్రీ ప్రభుత్వమువారి అభిప్రాయము నిమ్నజాతులను వుద్ధరించవలయుననేగదా. అట్లు అయిన వాండ్ల యిష్టమైన బ్యాంకులు, వాండ్ల గ్రామముల దగ్గిరయుండు సెంట్రలు కోఆపరేటీవు బ్యాంకులలో రుణము పుచ్చుకొని యేల అభివృద్ధి పొందకూడదు. ఒక్క క్రిష్టియన్ బ్యాంకులోనే పుచ్చుకోవలయునను సిద్ధాంతము, ఏసు క్రీస్తును నమ్మి మతం పొందితేనే మోక్షముయున్నది లేకపోతె మోక్షములేదు అని క్రయిస్తవపాదిరీలు చెప్పునట్లుయున్నది కావున శ్రీ ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఆ రూలు మార్పించి వారివారి యిష్టమైన బ్యాంకులలో రుణములు తెచ్చుకొనునట్లును వారి సంఘములు అభివృద్ధికి వచ్చునట్లును ఆర్డర్లు వేయించగలందులకును, ఈ శాఖయందు ఆనరెరీ అసిస్టాంటు రిజిస్ట్రార్లను మా కమ్యూనిటీయందు నియమించినయెడల వార్లకు కావలసిన సదుపాయములు బాగుగా నెరవేర్చుకుందురు. వసతిగృహములు యేర్పాటుచేయుటకున్ను నిమ్నజాతులకు కావలసిన సౌకర్యములు చేయుటకున్ను కోరుచున్నాను. ఈ శాఖయందు నియామిక వుద్యోగములకు కోలఫికేశనుయున్నవార్లు పిటీషనులు పెట్టగా ముందు వార్లకు యిచ్చి ఆదరించెదరని కోరుచున్నాను.”

4 p.m. * Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I congratulate the hon. the Finance Member for the frank and straightforward manner in which he has presented the budget. No jugglery has been attempted with the figures by him. At the same time, I think, Sir, we must be grateful to the hon. the Finance Secretary, Mr. Boag, for the lucid and illuminating explanations given in his budget memorandum. When I thought I scored a point against the Government, I was outwitted when I looked into the budget memorandum where I found a suitable explanation for my point. While thus congratulating the hon. the Finance Member for his budget and thanking the Finance Secretary for his memorandum, one cannot shut one's eyes to the fact that the budget is not a satisfactory one. For it is a deficit budget. But for the windfall by way of remission in our provincial contribution, we would have been in a sorry plight. Now, Sir, what is the cause for these deficit

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budgets year after year since the introduction of the Reforms? The hon. Member from Coimbatore, Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar, stated yesterday that when retrenchment is made in one direction in a certain department, another new section is introduced in the same department, which consumed more than what they gained by retrenchment. For instance, he stated that in the Forest Department while a lot of retrenchment has been made in the reduction of the poor forest rangers, forest guards, peons, etc., a new section called the 'Regeneration Department' has been introduced, which consumes a lot of money by way of a Conservator, Deputy and Assistant Conservators etc. It is also the case in the Public Works Department where we find a new Secretariat introduced with a Secretary, an expert adviser, Assistant Secretary, etc. Again, Sir, in the Co-operative Department, a new post has been created, viz., a Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies, costing more than a thousand rupees a month.

"When matters take their course in this manner, it has been stated that there should be a separation of the judicial from the executive functions. I am afraid, Sir, that it will be rather a folly on our part to ask for such a separation, for we have already suffered by the separation of these departments as the result of the Reforms. In the pre-Reform days, there were only three Executive Council Members who were in charge of almost all the portfolios now held by the three Ministers and the four Executive Councillors. At the same time, in those days, the expenditure incurred by the Government was not on such a large scale as it is now. Considering all these matters, the attitude of the Government seems to be this: if you agitate for anything you will have it, but at your cost. So, if we insist upon the separation of the judicial and the executive functions, the Government may yield in the end, but it will be at our cost again. The Government may ask us to contribute more money for the maintenance of the new judicial department. At the same time, the executive department from which this function has been taken away will be left in the same state, without any reduction being made in the staff, or without any attempt being made to give any other work to that department. At the present time, the executive department has not much work to do; it has been deprived of some of its functions, such as income-tax, local board affairs, agriculture, industry and so on. With all that, it is left in the same position; that is to say, no reduction has been made in the staff. For instance, the tahsildars have not got much work to do except revenue collection and attending to B Memo. work; the divisional officers too have not got much work except perhaps a little additional magisterial work; and the only addition to the present work of district collectors is the holding of darbars (laughter). Thus, it will be seen that no retrenchment is made in these directions. If the Government are sincere in this matter of retrenchment, they can at least do one thing, and that is, they can regroup these taluks so that the tahsildars may have full work to do. Also in the case of divisions and districts a regrouping may be made, which in the end will result in the reduction of a lot of revenue inspectors, tahsildars, divisional officers and even district collectors. Perhaps that may not be possible with regard to the Judicial Department; for they have already got a lot of work in each district. So, with regard to the Judicial Department, the old districts and taluks may be maintained. Again, Sir, considering the present state of things as compared with the present expenditure on the departments of Government, can we say there is

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any improvement in the efficiency of the administration of the departments, or it is in any way better than the administration of the departments in the pre-Reform days? I must say that the present administration is not better by any means. For in the pre-Reform days, so far as I know, aggrieved people used to always get justice from the departments, and at the same time officers of the Government used to come in contact with the people and do somthing to redress their grievances. Now-a-days, what I find is that the administration has become more or less a paper government; everything is done on paper. and nothing is done in the shape of coming into contact with the people and finding out their wants. I know an instance, Sir, of an I.C.S. Subdivisional Officer who remarked to me that he wanted to do some work in the villages by way of coming into contact with the people, but unfortunately when he returned from the office to his bungalow, he was faced with a huge file of papers to be disposed of, and thus he was unable to do some real work for the people. Considering all these things, it seems that not only the administration of the Government is becoming a matter of dealing with papers but that the efficiency of the administration is also on the wane. It will therefore be better for the Government to make full inquiry into the matter and infuse some spirit by introducing necessary healthy changes. Perhaps these defects may be due to the fact that finance is a Reserved subject and not a Transferred one. With all that, I hope some attempt might be made in this matter, so that the Government might create some confidence in the minds of the people in the administration and justice of the Government.

"Now, Sir, coming to the details of the budget, it is a welcome sign that provision has been made for several schemes, especially the allotment of Rs. 10 lakhs for the hydro-electric scheme. If the scheme is introduced soon, as is expected, and completed in the regime of the hon. the Law Member, the country will owe a deep debt of gratitude to him, and at the same time his name will be written in letters of gold on the pages of the history of Southern India. Sir, by the introduction of the hydro-electric scheme, a lot of development might be made in the country, for instance, in agricultural methods, in cottage industries and in so many other ways which will bring great benefit to the people, and the country will assume a different aspect altogether from what it is now. I hope, Sir, this scheme will be realized soon and the country will be profited by it.

"There is one other thing which I should like to bring to the notice of the Government. The Lee Commission has given overseas allowance to many officers, and it is a sorry sight to see in the budget a lot of provision made for this purpose. Not only has the country to suffer on account of the absence of those officers from India, but at the same time a lot of money has to be given to them in the shape of allowance. I do not know whether the Government follow any rule in giving these allowances: if not, it is better that this matter is controlled by certain strict rules.

"Then, Sir, with regard to the village officers, I find no provision made in the budget for the restoration of those officers who were sent out owing to the grouping of villages. It is not known, if the Bill passed by this Council recently was assented to by the Viceroy, when effect will be given to it.

4-15 p.m. "Again, Sir, last year provision was made for three district collectors from the Provincial Service. I find that that provision has been taken away this year. Some explanation is due with regard to that.

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"Coming to the Excise Department I find revenue from penalties and forfeitures in the year 1924–25 to be Rs. 3,000, in 1925–26 to be Rs. 15,000, and in 1926–27 it is expected to be Rs 9,000. The explanation given in the budget memorandum is that it was mainly due to the enforcement of enhanced rates of penalty for non-payment of kists. Sir, unless facts and figures are given to prove this, I am unable to accept this explanation. For, so far as my knowledge goes, with regard to southern districts, there are a certain class of people who are unwilling to tap toddy, and the Excise Department adopt all sorts of possible means to harass them and persecute them, and have them penalized for illicit tapping when they actually tap for sweet toddy. So, I should like to know from which part of the Presidency this income from forfeiture and penalty comes and the figures with regard to the same.

"With regard to the Development Department, I should like to say a word. It is quite necessary and essential that the Agricultural, Co-operative and Industries Departments should be combined together (Hear, hear). An article has already appeared in the *Hindu*—I do not remember the date—where cogent reasons have been given why these departments should be combined into one. Unless these departments are combined under one set of officers, it is not possible that any benefit would accrue to the ryots whom it is thought to benefit by these departments. I hope that some step will be taken in regard to this matter.

"Lastly, a word about my community. I have been pressing the question of the entertainment of members of my community in Government service, time in and time out for the last three years. So far nothing has been done appreciably in this matter. In the Judicial service I have been stating that there is no Nadar, either Hindu or Christian. The hon. the Law Member has not been kind enough to entertain at least a Christian Nadar in the Judicial service. In the Police, there are a few Hindu Nadars but no one has been promoted to a circle inspector. I understand there is a Nadar who is in the selection grade and who has got very good record and he can be promoted to the circle inspector's post. In the Registration Department, there is no one in the upper grade. In the Excise, there is a single Nadar as sub-inspector. He has not been confirmed in the post. I hope something will be done in this direction to redress their grievances."

* Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—"Mr. President, as this is the last budget to be introduced in this Council, I should like to associate myself with others who have congratulated the hon. the Finance Member on the ability he has shown in preparing this budget and the lucid way in which he has presented it. A detailed examination of the budget would show that this is not really a deficit budget and if those new schemes of expenditure for the ensuing year had been eschewed it was possible for the Finance Member to have presented at least a balancing budget. The hon. Member's optimism is therefore to a certain extent justified, but having said that, I should like to express my surprise at the manner in which Members on the other side have been criticizing the budget. Their grievances seem to be all against the Transferred half of the Government. They have no complaints to make on the Reserved half. They have not practically shown any defects on the part of the Reserved half. (Mr. P. Anjaneyulu :—Question)'—:' I welcome that tribute which the Swarajist Members have paid by their speeches yesterday and this morning to the

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efficiency with which the Reserved half is conducting itself so far. It is not for me to go into the motives of people and I must take their speeches at their face value. Extraordinarily bitter speeches have been made by some of the Members of the Opposition against the Transferred half and especially against the Chief Minister in charge of the Local Self-Government. They say that a convert to a faith is often more intolerant and more bigoted than one who was born into the faith. Indeed just at the time when the general election is approaching, converts to causes which did not have their adherents before are becoming more vocal than those who have always followed that path. My hon. Friend from Madras was more than usually bitter in his speech and the whole gravamen of the charge that he can lay against the Minister for Local Self-Government was against the way in which nominations are made to local bodies. One would think that the very foundation of Swarajist Government is based on these nominations. It has been our good fortune or misfortune in this Council to listen to this tale regarding nominations from the day the present Council began its sitting with the 'No Confidence' motion down to this day, and nothing has been more perverse, nothing has been farther from the truth, than these statements lightly made against such nominations. It seems to me that the real purpose of the hon. Member was to coerce by his speeches the Minister into accepting the nominations which he seems to have sent regarding the Corporation of Madras. I have no official information as to the nature of these nominations, but if what I hear is correct, the hon. Member who waxed so eloquent and grew so wrathful against the nomination of party men appears to have done exactly the identical thing which he condemns. He seems to have suggested candidates for nomination who intend to contest the next general elections with a view to enhance their importance and give them a better chance at such elections. He seems to have recommended, if my information is true, men who have pledged themselves to support him and his party. Of course, I am prepared for a vehement denial from the hon. Member, but I can assure this House, and every impartial hearer outside, that knowing Swarajists' tactics and knowing the record of Swarajists elsewhere, where they have been in power, the allegations that I have made are perhaps far more justified than those the hon. Member has chosen to make."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—"May I know whether, in a Budget discussion where criticisms are to be confined to the Budget, it is proper for one Member to criticise the speeches of other Members."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Hon. Members who make speeches must expect them to be criticised."

* Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—"The hon. Member went so far as to suggest that in the review of administration reports special consideration was paid to the administration of party men. I can quote instance after instance where party men have been more severely criticised than non-party men and the reference to the hon. the Raja Sahib of Ramnad's letter is itself proof that that is so. For the Raja Sahib of Ramnad is certainly a party man and his complaint in the letter was that his administration report was not so well reviewed as that of a neighbouring district board president who cannot be said to be a party man. This again, Sir, it seems to me, is an attempt on the part of the hon. Member to coerce the Minister to review his administration report when the time comes for it

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with bated breath and whispering humbleness to cover up all those defects, irregularities and improprieties in the conduct of affairs of the Madras Corporation which are sickening to hear to the City of Madras and to the whole presidency. The hon. Member spoke lightly of the taluk board administration, but I can assure him that many a taluk board is conducted with better dignity, with far better ideas of business, and with greater stress on impartiality than has been the case during the last six months, with the affairs of Madras Corporation. The hon Member's rulings, the allowance of questions, the way in which the proceedings are carried on there, the resolutions passed condemning the officials of the Corporation without giving them a chance of defending themselves and the necessity for deleting such resolutions later, when greater sobriety was in evidence among certain sections of the members of the Corporation—all these go to show what we may expect if unfortunately gentlemen of the hon. Member's party come into power. It seems to me that the wailing of the hon. Member is proof positive of the baselessness of the allegations that he so recklessly made yesterday.

" The hon. the non-Brahman Member for Bellary made similar allegations against the Local Self-Government Department. The hon. Member speaks with such pathos, with such evident sincerity, so full of love for the masses and people, so generous in high principle that the very recording angels must weep every time when he speaks. The hon. Member is nothing if he is not non-communal, non-sectarian. His is a universality of toleration, which few of us can copy, and the high principles that he enunciates are proof positive of his attitude of mind towards public questions. The hon. Member stated yesterday in attacking the nominations of the hon. Minister that some of those nominations could not be justified. I entirely agree. For example, what possible justifications could the hon. the Minister have for nominating the hon. Member for Bellary himself, an educated gentleman and an influential gentleman who was twice returned to the Legislative Council, a gentleman who does not belong to any of the depressed classes, a gentleman who does not believe in communal representation ? What justification could the Minister have for nominating or rather forcing the nomination on the hon. Member for Bellary ? "

* The hon. the Raja of Panagal :—" It is not correct, Sir. It was not forced upon him ; it was courted."

* Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu :—" Glad, Sir. The hon. Member must have felt thoroughly uncomfortable when he discovered his name in the Gazette. The hon. Member talks high platitudes and principles. Where was that still small voice of the Member, the conscience which he parades so much before us when he himself was nominated ? Why did he not protest against it ? With what grace did he accept it ? And yet, these are our gods, O ! Israel, who come and talk beatific truths in the Legislative Council ! The hon. Member would certainly like to have himself nominated as the president of the district board. He would probably like the elections to be put off for six months after he is nominated so that he may be acquainted with other members and stand a chance of being elected as president. But we are all actuated by selfish motives ! ! The hon. Member is nothing if he is not selfless—a puritan of puritans, one who gets annoyed at the way in which the local self-government is administered and nominations of party men are made ! But, alas, he has a fatal facility

to forget these high sounding principles and platitudes, if his own individual self is concerned. I shall not pursue such an unpleasant matter further, but leave it to the world to judge what the hon. Member meant by the criticism that he has addressed last night. I can recount other numerous instances of the partiality of the hon. the Local Self-Government Minister towards the party and party men. I was myself nominated on the recommendation of the Collector of my district, a European gentleman belonging to no party, to a seat on the municipal council and at the instance of the Collector again the notification for nomination by the Government was issued in the Gazette Extraordinary. There was a howl; the interpellations came fast and thick asking for the necessity for such a notification. My hon. Friend from Nellore wished to gazette the election of a district board member from the Taluk Board of Gudur. The election took place three days before the election of the president of the district board for which he himself was a candidate. He had not the authority to require the issue of a *Fort St. George Gazette* Extraordinary notification and the hon. Minister had a Gazette Extraordinary issued just in time to enable the newly elected member to vote and in accordance with the wishes of the district board president. The hon. Member for Nellore, every one in this House knows, is certainly not a party man of the Justice Party, and therefore the issue of this Gazette Extraordinary was unnoticed by the hon. puritans opposite. No interpellations are forthcoming, no reasons are asked, no aspersion of bias is made. That is how the world moves. That is how the hon. Members opposite discharge their functions as Members of the Legislative Council.

4-30 p.m. "This is a fraud on their power as Members of the Legislative Council which the hon. Members opposite can be rightly charged with and a gullible public is sometimes made to swallow all the twaddle that comes from hyper-patriots opposite. That is why Carlyle said: 'The majority of men are fools.' I do not propose to dissect the speeches of the hon. Members opposite. But I must confess that several of the Brahman members opposite have been far more tolerant and far more just than the new converted enthusiasts who are sticking to the coat tails of the Brahman members like the hon. Member for the City and the hon. Member for North Arcot or for Bellary. I shall conclude with only a short reference to some of the Reserved subjects.

"As regards the hydro-electric scheme, I think the less said about it the better. The hon. Member in charge has not yet chosen to take any of us into confidence as to how he intends to carry on the scheme and in the provision in the budget we see no details, and contrary to promises he has made the hon. Member has chosen to adopt a silent attitude. The Irrigation Bill which was passed post haste to enable the hon. Member to get through his big projects is still in the air. The separation of judicial and executive functions, the resolutions passed on these repeatedly in these Councils, has not been touched by the hon. Member and no explanation is coming as to why he has not chosen to move in the matter. The Mettur project is threatening to cost a lot of money—several crores in fact—and the one thing that the public are aware is that a Collector has been appointed as a Special Officer for land acquisition work. I wonder how this has been necessitated and how the Finance Department has agreed to such a proposal. Does the hon. Member suggest that a Deputy Collector in charge of these land acquisitions has not got all powers necessary for such work? Lands costing

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several lakhs have been acquired for railway purposes only by ordinary Deputy Collectors. If such an appointment is given to a Deputy Collector many a tahsildar who is now rotting without any chance of ever even getting a chance to act as Deputy Collector would find a chance. This is the first instance when a Collector has been appointed for such a purpose, and appointments are being made every day for this Mettur project."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" I think for the acquisition of land for railways also there was a Collector appointed."

* Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" It is remoured that a special Superintending Engineer is going to be appointed at so early a stage when even one sod has not been turned. The result of the hon. Member's activities seems to be more to make appointments than to give us real tangible good.

" In the last budget, two items relating to the Official Referee and the temporary High Court Judges were cut out by practically the unanimous vote of the Council. Both of them were certified by His Excellency the Governor and with the help of a complacent Opposition. The hon. the Law Member has been able to get one Judge permanently on the budget and perhaps will get the other also passed at the next sitting of the Council. The hon. Member had a committee of his own to consider the question of revision of the Estates Land Act, but as usual nothing has been done; and we are aware of the muddle into which we had almost fallen in connexion with the Malabar Tenancy Bill and it remains to be seen whether the Council would pass the Bill in the middle of June of this year. It was said of Ovid that there was nothing that he touched which he did not adorn. I wish I could say the same thing of the hon. the Law Member.

" No doubt the thanks of this House are due to the hon. the Law Member for having given more money for minor irrigation works. I am a great. . ."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I disown those thanks. Those are due to my hon. Friend the Revenue Member." (Laughter).

* Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" Irrigation being in the charge of the hon. the Law Member I thought minor irrigation was in his charge also."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Minor irrigation is in the charge of the hon. the Revenue Member."

* Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" No doubt the Revenue Member must be thanked (laughter) for having given more money for minor irrigation works. I am a great believer in giving immediate relief to the people by securing a few more lakhs on several such works more than in spending crores of rupees on such colossal works.

" Now, one or two words about the Transferred departments. You, Sir, the Education Minister, for God's sake, may be pleased to be a little more liberal to the district educational councils and give them a better staff with better pay and some more money for grants to the aided institutions. You have reduced . . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order, order. Will the hon. Member pass all these remarks through the chair?"

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* Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu:—" You have reduced the office peons from two to one. (Laughter). The hon. the Minister for Education has reduced the office peons from two to one. Surely this is no retrenchment. He must know what an amount of work the present-day district educational councils are turning out.

" Coming now to Excise, which is also in his hands, I would request the hon. Minister to pursue the work of minimising the drink evil with a view to bring about prohibition in course of time.

" The hon. the Chief Minister has made himself the target of unfounded attack on account of the nominations he had to make. In the Bills to amend the Local Boards Act and the Municipalities Act I request him to make suitable provision for creating electorates for minorities (Rao Bahadur C. V. S. Narasimha Raju: 'Hear, hear.') I also request him not to withdraw the special grants given for rural waterworks and village roads if the amount remained unspent at the close of the official year. He knows that it was at the fag end of the year that such grants were made and that there are difficulties in the way of spending the whole amount sanctioned within the year. On the trunk roads there are many bridges to be constrcted and I request him to pay his earnest attention to this important question and make the inter-district traffic less difficult.

" I am sorry to state that in making grants to the districts affected by cyclones the hon. Minister is making distinction between district and district. During the last two years my own district suffered badly and works costing Rs. 50,000 had to be done on the repairs of trunk roads alone. While the Government made grants to other district boards which suffered likewise, they refused to pay us a single pie. This is not a just treatment.

" Lastly, I request the hon. Minister for Development to open more agricultural model schools to teach the improved methods of cultivation."

Rao Bahadur A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu:—" We have had this reformed Council for over five years now and it is time we take stock of the situation and ascertain what achievements we have made during this period. It was possible for Lord Birkenhead, with the official information placed before him, to say that the reforms were worked with some measure of success so far as Madras was concerned. But, Sir, I believe that we in this House who are in close contact with the working of this reformed Council and the reformed Government, who have far greater opportunities of knowing the internal working of the machinery, are in a better position to form a judgment about the working of the reformed Government in Madras during the last five years. After making due allowance for the few acts of benefit here and there for which credit is claimed and to which I wish to refer later, I have no hesitation in saying that the result is not one which we can view with any degree of satisfaction and the system has on the whole been a failure.

"To take one point. In the beginning, I wish to point out that according to the revenue adjusted on the revised classifications, the revenue in 1920–21 was 1,560 lakhs with an expenditure of 1,130 lakhs. But what do we find in the next year, i.e., the first year of the working of the reforms? Whereas the increase of revenue according to the classification was only 19·20 lakhs, the increase of expenditure was 557·42 lakhs. or $5\frac{1}{2}$ crores of rupees. Most

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of this is due to the increase under salaries and allowances and a portion to other objects. I wish to mention this to start with because there has been an appalling growth of public expenditure."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"Sir, I do not wish the hon. Member to proceed under a misapprehension. I may point out to him that he has omitted an item of 348 lakhs."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—"I am taking it."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"That is to say, 348 lakhs are to be added to the 1,130 lakhs in order to get the correct comparison."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—"Making allowance, I add 348 lakhs and yet it is seen that the bill on account of increased salaries alone came to 3 crores of rupees. I am now referring to the question to show that after the reformed Government there has been an appalling growth of public expenditure.

"The second point to which I wish to draw attention in this connexion is that we have been budgeting for deficits continuously from 1921-22. That is a state of affairs which we must view with dissatisfaction because, if pursued, it might lead us to bankruptcy. Again, what do we find? We find that after the introduction of these reforms we had an increase of taxation. Apart from the normal increase of land revenue, we have increase in court-fees, increase in stamp duties, increase in registration charges, increase of local taxation under the new Municipalities Act and Local Boards Act and the levy of an education tax in various rural areas. This is a statement of the circumstances which have happened after the introduction of the reforms. If, Sir, after the levy of these additional charges and after the increase of expenditure we have been able to view around us various items of advancement of administration, one can view it with some degree of pleasure. But the result is we cannot take pride for any such item of advancement. I know that it will be stated that we had a programme of village roads and village water-supply during the current year and some provision has been made for medical relief next year. I realize the importance of that. I realize also that the hon. the Minister for Education has gone further ahead with his policy of expansion of primary education and has been able to get a substantial grant for that purpose. But may I point out that it is difficult to refer to these circumstances as the direct result of the introduction of the reforms. Is it not a fact and are you not aware that long before the introduction of the reforms, the Government of India when they had a surplus, made a grant of 26 lakhs for roads and communications in various rural areas? Are we not aware that those grants were distributed on far more liberal terms than now? (Mr. J. A. Saldanha: Hear, hear.) I may tell the House and especially my hon. Friend from South Kanara that when these 26 lakhs were distributed, 20 lakhs were given for local boards and 6 lakhs for other bodies. There were no restrictions like those imposed now, namely, that the local boards should find half the money It shows that the local boards were trusted before in the carrying out of their duties.

"Even as regards the question of primary education, may I remind the House that ever since Mr. Gokhale raised the question in the Imperial Legislative Council in 1910-11, the Government of India to the extent to which funds were available, were making provision. I only mention this to

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show that we are not to be enamoured by the mere fact that provision is made for roads and bridges and increase of primary education in this year's budget and that it is due directly to the reforms. This policy was enunciated long before the introduction of the reforms and if we feel thankful to the hon. the Minister it is not for the initiation of this policy but for carrying out this policy and for continuing it. My own impression is that if they did not do it they would be less than human. The test by which I would request this House to consider whether there has been any progress is this : whether any measures have been undertaken for the purpose of improving the prosperity and the welfare of the people and especially the prosperity of the rural population who are mostly affected. 4-45 p.m. That is the test. I am not apportioning the responsibility between the Reserved and the Transferred halves of the Government. It is not my purpose here to state who is responsible and who is not. But we must confess that we have not made any progress. Four things must chiefly be considered in this connexion. These are the questions of land ownership including land assessment, land tenure including the relations between the landlord and the tenant, question relating to agriculture and lastly the question relating to irrigation. These are the tests by which the prosperity of the people, especially of the rural population, is to be measured. Judged by this standard the progress has been very disappointing. Let me take the first question. In December 1921, this House passed by a large majority a resolution for permanent settlement in ryotwari areas after an animated debate in which the hon. Ministers remained neutral. Did the Government take it up seriously and press the matter upon the attention of the Government of India? Did they express themselves in favour of the principle ? All that we know is that subsequently in answer to a question the hon. the Revenue Member said that it was in correspondence with the Government of India. We are not in a position to know more. Probably the discussion in this House was communicated to the Government of India. On the 14th December 1921 the hon. the Revenue Member stated that the House had waited for about 120 years, i.e., from 1796 to 1920, for this permanent settlement and that it could wait for a month or two more to introdnce the Land Revenue Bill. It was an alluring prospect ; but the House took the speech of the hon. Member at its worth and voted for the resolution before the House. After all in December 1924 a Land Revenue Bill was introduced which was found to possess many objectionable features. The House rejected the Bill. One year has passed and no Bill was forthcoming. We do not blame the Local Government here for this delay ; because the matter is now in correspondence with the Government of India. Any how the Land Revenue Bill is yet to be introduced.

"The second question relates to land tenure and the relations between the landlord and the tenant. An explanation is due from the hon. the Law Member for the long delay regarding the Estates Land Act. A committee was appointed but the report has not seen the light of day. A second committee was appointed and we do not know whether the report is ready or not. Comments are made in the Administration Report to the effect that the relations between the landlord and the tenant have not been satisfactory. May I ask the hon. the Law Member what he has done to improve the relations between them. Reference is made to certain places where the relations between the two have not been cordial. Ganjām, Trichinopoly,

certain zamindaris in the Ramnad district, Tinnevelly, Nellore, Chittoor, Madura and Salem districts are mentioned. In spite of this, that no steps should have been taken from 1925 till now is a matter which calls for an explanation. The Malabar Tenancy Bill was introduced into this House. How are the Government going to justify the difference in the way they received it at the beginning and the way in which they put forward their objections just at the end of the labours of the Select Committee?

"Coming to the third question, viz., agriculture, the ordinary landholder is not well acquainted with the working of the various sections of the department. He is not convinced of the utility of them. They have not made themselves understood. But we expected that the Royal Commission on Agriculture would solve these problems. But it is sad to note that the terms of reference to the Royal Commission are very unsatisfactory. They are not intended to do any real service to the rural population. The Commission has to examine and report on the present condition of agriculture and rural economy and make recommendations for the improvement of agriculture and the promotion of the welfare and prosperity of the rural population. How will this be promoted if the restrictions to which I am going to refer are placed in the scope of the inquiry? It is stated that 'it will not be within the scope of the Commission itself to examine the existing system of land ownership and tenancy or of the assessment of land revenue and irrigation charges . . . or the existing division of functions between the Government of India and the Local Governments, but the Commission shall be at liberty to suggest means whereby the activities of the Government of India may best be co-ordinated and to indicate directions in which the Government of India may usefully supplement the activities of the Local Governments'.

"With these restricted terms of reference is it possible to expect that satisfactory results will follow from the Commission? I am glad that the Secretary of State took a more liberal view of the terms of reference though he did not follow it up to its logical conclusion. The Secretary of State in his remarks says, 'I agree that the Commission, if for no other reason than that it is not qualified, cannot be expected to deal with such questions as relationship of landlords and tenants, land revenue systems to-day, assessments or irrigation charges. Nevertheless it is inevitable that witnesses will refer to them during the inquiry, and I do not think that the Commission should be precluded from examining witnesses on them, with a view to soliciting whether, and to what extent, the present conditions of agriculture, etc., are affected by them. Although the Commission should certainly not investigate these subjects or make specific recommendations in respect of them, I consider it should not be precluded from referring to them as matters directly connected with the question under inquiry'."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member has already exceeded his time limit."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU:—"I shall finish in a few minutes. It is impossible to understand the attitude of the Secretary of State on this question. What is the use of witnesses who are well-versed in the subjects coming before the Commission and giving valuable evidence while the Commission itself is precluded from making any recommendations on those questions? The main reason given by the Secretary of State for this restriction in the terms of reference to the Royal Commission is that

'it is not qualified and cannot be expected to deal with such questions . . .' Whose fault is it? There is no use of merely considering the question of agriculture without considering the other questions which have an important bearing upon it. Unless we consider those questions also, the real object of the Committee, viz., the promotion of the welfare and the prosperity of the rural population will not be effected. The fourth question is that relating to irrigation and is closely connected with agriculture."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member exceeded his time limit long ago and I would request him to resume his seat so that I may call upon other hon. Members to speak."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—"The only other subject upon which I wish to speak is that of irrigation and I shall do so at the time of the voting of demands for grants. For, notwithstanding the professions of the hon. the Law Member much more has to be done."

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB :—"Sir, a careful scrutiny of the budget that has been presented to us leaves one with the impression that the Government of Madras has yet to learn how to cut its coat according to its cloth. Unless we balance our budget a time will come when the stability of the administration will be seriously affected. To prepare a balanced budget must be the end and aim of all of us. That can be attained only in two ways: one is the increase of taxation and the other is retrenchment. So far as our province is concerned the incidence of taxation is very high and ours is one of the poorest provinces in the whole of India. Therefore the only other solution is retrenchment, certainly not of the type carried out by our Government a few years ago by which only a certain number of peons were removed and a few villages regrouped. That sort of retrenchment cannot certainly cure the province of the ills to which it has been subjected. The remedy must be sought for somewhere else. I shall make a few suggestions in that direction. Time and again, both inside and outside the House it has been urged that the Board of Revenue does not serve a very useful or necessary purpose and the scrapping of this big institution would serve as a step in the solution of this problem. Then, Sir, the Government have only to make a little more use of the two Acts, the Income-tax Act and the Local Boards Act. Under the Income-tax Act a new Income-tax Department has been started and the Revenue authorities are now freed from a large portion of their work. After the passing of the Local Boards Act a great deal of the daily work of the district authorities has been transferred. Therefore the Government may try and regroup the taluks instead of regrouping the villages. If only the Government care to try this suggestion it will go a long way to help us out of this deficit.

"The most prominent department in charge of the hon. the Law Member is the High Court. The hon. the Law Member is a great lawyer and I expect him to have much respect for precedents. In the High Court for a long time provision was made for one judge to be a Mussalman.

5 p.m. "It is already more than five years since a Mussalman honoured one of the Benches of the High Court; no attempt has been made to keep up the precedent. It has been brought to the notice of the hon. the Law Member more than once that it is high time that some suitable hands should be found for that place. Of course I am aware of the stock argument that no suitable

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person is available. But I have no belief in this. If only the Government will care to open its eyes widely and look abroad, it can find not only one but more than one member who can occupy the position eminently well.

" Coming to the Department of Police under his charge, we find that there are a number of Mussalman Deputy Superintendents of Police and many of them are also reported to have good record of work. But when we turn to the District Superintendents of Police I ask, Sir, what is the representation that my community has been given in the higher cadre of the Police Department. It is, I should submit, a very miserable picture and needs immediate attention of the hon the Law Member.

" Turning to the irrigation schemes which are in his charge, of course I do not wish to question, as my hon. Friend from Malabar, how he has been able to find large sums of money before the Irrigation Bill has become an Act. I quite welcome the expenditure."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" On a matter of personal explanation, Sir. I took special care to mention that I myself welcomed the expenditure though I said I could not find any explanation as to how he was able to find the money having regard to the statement he made before the introduction of the Irrigation Bill. I am glad that the hon. the Law Member has undertaken such a large expenditure."

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB :—" I only join hands with the hon. Member and welcome the expenditure. It would be to the great benefit of not only one district but of several districts. In this connexion I must draw the attention of the hon. the Law Member to the fact that all the benefits that are to be derived out of this scheme should not be earmarked for a particular district. We, Sir, belonging to Trichinopoly and the people belonging to the districts of Coimbatore and Salem ought to have their legitimate share of the advantages that are to be derived by this large expenditure on public works. I may go further and say that we are better entitled than the people of Tanjore to these progressive measures undertaken by the Government. We are more at the source of the scheme than the people of Tanjore and we are not so well served by irrigation schemes as the people of Tanjore are. For these two reasons at least, if not for other reasons, we do deserve better consideration in the matter of the benefit of this major project.

" Coming to the Kattalai scheme, I have to say one word on that matter. There has been a lot of agitation especially among the people of Tanjore taking objection to the erection of a dam in Kattalai. Sir, I should think that this is probably due to want of knowledge on the part of those people as to what purpose that dam is expected to serve. It is nothing like a major dam. It is certainly not expected to conserve water in any large quantity. It is only meant to supplant the present korambu system which obtains in the river Cauveri. Especially during the last few years it would have been noticed in the papers what great troubles and difficulties the people of Trichinopoly were put to on account of this korambu system, which is constructed at the biginning of every season to be washed away at the beginning of the next rains. It is only a temporary measure—it is not proposed to construct a permanent dam—which will save much of capital expenditure and which will supply the district with the necessary quantity of water regularly and unfailingly. I must clearly point out to

my hon. Colleagues from Tanjore that by the erection of this dam it is not at all proposed to give the district of Trichinopoly one more drop of water than what that district is already entitled to. After hearing this fact I expect that the people of Tanjore will not take any serious objection to the erection of the Kattalai dam; and even if they do so, for the reasons I have already pointed out, their objections are meaningless and emanate out of the mere 'dog in the manger' policy. They are not going to be benifited by it. In spite of the Kattalai dam there will be still a lot of water going waste into the sea after supplying both the districts of Tanjore and Trichinopoly alike.

"Coming to the Revenue Department, I have to draw the attention of the hon. the Revenue Member to the fact that only a few years ago there were as many as three Mussalman gentlemen in his department who were District Collectors in this Province. Within a few years we have come to the position that there is only one in that cadre to-day. I therefore make a special appeal to the hon. the Revenue Member to see that the old proportion is soon reached and that efforts are taken without any delay to reach not only that number three but also to go further.

"Now I turn my attention to the Transferred half and first of all my attention is naturally directed to the hon. the Chief Minister. Of course I welcome the new schemes regarding improvement of village roads and the improvement of village water-supply and village hospitals. But at the same time I should point out that the grants as provided at present will not go a long way to ameliorate the actual suffering condition in which our villages are. I should like to impress upon him the very great necessity there is still of spending larger and larger amounts of money in these directions before we can congratulate ourselves upon satisfactorily improving the needs of our villages.

"As regards the District Municipalities Act we have heard of many complaints about the provisions of the Act and I am glad to note that this fact has already attracted the attention of the Government. I only wish to say that the question of amending the whole Act should be taken up without any great delay.

"Coming to the department of Education I am of course glad to note the large sum of money it has got for the improvement of education; and I have also to thank the hon. the Education Minister for his tender mercies regarding the Islamia School at Trichinopoly; but at the same time I have a serious complaint about the support given to Muslim education in general. In my days—when I was a student—we were enjoying the privilege of the half fee concession rates. But though the same rule still applies we see as a matter of fact that the rule is honoured more in the breach than in its observance. So, Sir, I wish that he would so alter the Grant-in-Aid Code as to see that all institutions that come in for grants at the hands of this Government do observe this rule strictly.

"One general remark I have to offer regarding the Education Department. In the hands of the teaching profession lie the future destiny of the rising generation and if our object is to develop a healthy nation, every effort should be made to keep up a healthy staff. To-day the hopes of promotion for our professors in the colleges are not so great as they were before. They have been deprived of the presidency allowance which the staff of the same

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cadre in other departments and the inspecting staff of the same department are getting. I would therefore strongly urge upon the hon. the Education Minister to do what best he can to improve their status so that we may improve the rising generation as a whole."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I make a personal explanation with regard to something that was said in my absence? I am sorry I was not present at that time. If you and the House will give me permission I shall explain the matter. It appears, Sir, that in the course of the speech of the hon. Member Mr. Ethirajulu Nayudu the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government interjected a remark."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" May I ask, Sir, whether it would not be better if the hon. Member cannot offer his personal explanation when the hon. Member Mr. Ethirajulu Nayudu is present in the House?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The personal statement is with regard to the remarks made by the hon. the Raja of Panagal."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" It appears that the hon. the Minister remarked that nomination for the membership was courted by me. May I say what exactly took place? He sent for me through my revered friend Mr. Kesava Pillai and asked me if I would accept the presidentship of the Bellary District Board. I said I could not take up that appointment. Afterwards he asked me whom else I would suggest for that appointment. I said he would not appoint the person whom I may suggest for obvious reasons. I said I shall be simply a member of the board and see that things did not go far wrong.

"That is what took place at the time. If he considers that I was 5-15 p.m.
courting nomination while I rejected the presidentship of the district board, he is welcome to do so."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"The question before the House was whether the appointment as a member of the Board was forced upon him. I said it was not forced, but courted. I do not think he now says anything against that statement."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Does he dispute the statement that he offered the presidentship of the district board?"

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I am not prepared to say anything about it now. The incident took place a long time ago. Moreover the question before us is not about the appointment of the president of the district board but about the membership of the district board. It was said that the membership was forced upon him. The hon. Member himself admits that he asked for it."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I leave the matter at that."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" With regard to to-morrow's proceedings there are a large number of members who want to speak. I should like to offer the suggestion to the House that we may have no questions to-morrow and that we begin the debate on the budget at 11 o'clock. I suppose that will meet the wishes of the House."

The House adjourned to meet at 11 a.m. the next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 1548 asked by Mr. G. Rameswara Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 5th March 1926, page 178 supra.]

Statement showing the action taken by Government so far as the Police Department is concerned on the recommendations of the Madras Retrenchment Committee that were reported to be under consideration at the time of the issue of G.O. No. 666, *Finance, dated* 11*th September* 1924.

Number of the chapter and paragraph of the Retrenchment Committee's report. (1)	Brief subject of the recommendation. (2)	Action taken. (3)	Financial effect in cases where orders have been issued.	
			Immediate. (4)	Ultimate. (5)
Chapter XV—Police—				RS.
Paragraph 197.	(2) Abolition of Personal Assistants to the Superintendents of Police.	Detailed proposals have been approved in G.O. No. 634, Judicial (Police), dated 8th December 1924.	..	14,124
	(3) (i) Reduction in the number of Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors by extending the jurisdictions of stations and other re-arrangements of work;	(i) Vide items (5) and (6) below	..	1,00,000
	(ii) removal of inefficient Sub-Inspectors;	(ii) The Government have not accepted the proposal that Sub-Inspectors considered incompetent should be dispensed with on compensation or by giving other appointments. They have ordered that incompetence to justify a man's service being dispensed with must be established on framed charges and evidence after enquiry—Paragraph 3 of G.O. No. 441, Judicial (Police), dated 25th August 1924.	..	..
	(iii) introduction of graded scale of pay to Sub-Inspectors; and	(iii) The proposal was accepted by Government in G.O. No. 648, Judicial (Police), dated 11th December 1924.	..	..
	(iv) the raising of the percentage of head-constables to be promoted as Sub-Inspectors.	(iv) The Inspector-General of Police was against raising the percentage and the matter was not pursued—G.O. No. 441, Judicial (Police), dated 25th August 1924.	..	..

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Statement showing the action taken by Government so far as the Police Department is concerned on the recommendations of the Maaras Retrenchment Committee that were reported to be under consideration at the time of the issue of G.O. No. 666, Finance, dated 11th September 1924—cont.

Number of the chapter and paragraph of the Retrenchment Committee's report. (1)	Brief subject of the recommendation. (2)	Action taken. (3)	Financial effect in cases where orders have been issued. Immediate. (4)	Financial effect in cases where orders have been issued. Ultimate. (5)
Chapter XV—Police—*cont.* Paragraph 197—*cont.*	(5) Number of out-posts to be reduced. (6) The number of constables to be reduced by 2,000.	The Inspector-General of Police has so far submitted proposals for the re-allocation of Police in eighteen districts.	..	..
	..	Of these orders on the re-allocation of Police in the Tanjore district were issued in G.O. No. 665, Judicial, dated 23rd November 1925.	..	..
	..	Proposals in regard to the rest are still under consideration. The Inspector-General has stated that the probable effect of the re-allocation proposals on the strength of the Police force in the Presidency will be a net reduction of 1 Inspector (temporary), 9 Sergeants, 56 Sub-Inspectors, 404 head constables and 750 constables and an increase of 3 Inspectors and 48 taluiyaris (i.e.), a decrease in the expenditure of Rs. 3,45,100 per annum approximately. Exact cost will be known when revised proposition statements are received.	..	..

Appendix II.

[Vide item II Communications to the Council at page 179 supra.]

G.O. No. 8, Development, dated 4th January 1926.

Read—the following papers :—

I

Letter from E. F. Thomas, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S., Director of Industries, to the Secretary to Government, Development Department (through the Accountant-General, Madras), dated the 26th October 1925, No. 344-E/25.

I have the honour to forward herewith the balance sheet of the Fruit Preserving Institute, Coonoor, for the quarter ending 30th June 1925, together with the relative profit and loss account received from Messrs. Fraser and Ross with their letter, dated the 14th October 1925, from which it will be observed that the Institute has sustained a loss of Rs. 4,400-3-11 during the quarter. My remarks on the balance sheet, etc., will be forwarded to Government separately.

Enclosure

Letter from Messrs. Fraser & Ross, Chartered Accountants, Commercial Accountants and Auditors to the Government of Madras, to the Director of Industries, Madras, dated 14th October 1925

[*Government Fruit Preserving Institute, Coonoor.*]

We have the honour to hand you herewith in duplicate the balance sheet of the above as at 30th June 1925 together with the relative profit and loss account for the quarter ending that date, one copy of which please forward to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Development Department.

2. For your information we give below the 'Output,' the 'Cost of Production' and the 'Sales,' of the corresponding quarter in the previous year compared with those of the quarter under review :—

	Current year.	Last year.
Output	2,2[illegible]7 lb.	11,049 lb.
Cost of production..	Rs. 2-10·43 per lb.	Rs. 1-1·16 per lb.
Sales	6,288 lb.	13,610 lb.

3. In addition to a sum of Rs. 47-7-9 shown as bad debts in the balance sheet Rs. 405-4-6 due by another and shown under 'Good Debts' appears to be doubtful. No provision has been made in the accounts for bad and doubtful debts.

Kindly acknowledge receipt of the enclosures.

SUB-ENCLOSURES

(1)

GOVERNMENT FRUIT PRESERVING INSTITUTE, COONOOR.

Balance Sheet as at 30th June 1925.

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES.

	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Capital—			
Government of Madras—			
Balance as per balance sheet as at 31st March 1925.		1,54,536 15 5	
Add—Withdrawals as per contingent bills.		3,667 2 11	
		1,58,204 2 4	
Less—Remittances into Treasury.	4,017 10 6		
Adjustment of credit note from Jos. Rhodes & Sons.	69 13 0	4,087 7 6	
		1,54,116 10 10	
Add—Reserve for expenses—			
Direction charges.		125 0 0	
Audit and organization.		200 0 0	1,54,441 10 10
Liabilities—			
For expenses ..		1,138 0 0	
For customers' credit balances.		13 15 0	1,151 15 0
Carried forward ..			1,55,593 9 10

PROPERTY AND ASSETS.

	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Fixed capital expenditure—		
Land—		
As per balance sheet as at 31st March 1925.	9,309 5 3	
Add—Incidental expenses re : acquisition of Land.	57 2 0	9,366 7 3
Buildings—		
As per balance sheet as at 31st March 1925.	45,355 12 2	
Less—Depreciation to date	4,402 12 2	40,953 0 0
Plant and Machinery—		
As per balance sheet as at 31st March 1925.	20,728 6 7	
Less—Value of credit note from Jos. Rhodes & Sons.	69 13 0	
	20,658 9 7	
Less—Depreciation to date	3,575 9 7	17,083 0 0
Office furniture—		
As per balance sheet as at 31st March 1925.	2,793 15 4	
Less—Depreciation to date	402 15 4	2,391 0 0
Water-supply—		
As per balance sheet as at 31st March 1925.	3,036 15 6	
Less—Depreciation to date	425 15 6	
		2,611 0 0
Carried forward ..		72,404 7 3

Balance Sheet as at 30th June 1925—*cont.*

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES—*cont.*

	RS. A. P.
Brought forward ..	1,55,593 9 10
	1,55,593 9 10

PROPERTY AND ASSETS—*cont.*

	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Brought forward ..		..	72,404 7 3
Road at original cost		387 14 0	
Less—Depreciation to date		49 10 0	
			338 4 0
Utensils, as per valuation			692 13 6
Laboratory, as per valuation			703 2 6
Library, as per valuation			106 0 0
Garden Account			521 8 0
Loose tools, as per valuation			148 8 6
Stores stock, at cost			12,906 5 9
Stationery stock, at cost			375 1 7
Stock in trade—			
14,240 lb. at As. 7 per lb. in containers at the factory		6,230 0 0	
57 lb. at As. 7 per lb. in containers at Agricultural Show room.		24 15 0	
59 lb. at As. 7 per lb. in containers at Tanjore exhibition.		25 13 0	
			6,280 12 0
Book debts—			
Considered good		1,863 10 6	
Considered doubtful		47 7 9	
			1,911 2 3
Cash and other balances—			
Stamps in hand		100 0 6	
Cash in hand		287 3 6	
Imprest cash	215 0 0		
Less—Amount spent ..	16 9 3		
		198 6 9	
			585 10 9
Profit and Loss Account—			
As per Balance Sheet as at 31st March 1925. ..		54,219 9 10	
Add—Loss as per Profit and Loss Account. ..		4,400 3 11	
			58,619 13 9
			1,55,593 9 10

Examined and found correct.

FRASER & ROSS, Chartered Accountants,
Commercial Accountants and Auditors to the Government of Madras.

MADRAS,
14*th October* 1925.

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(2)

Profit and Loss Account for the quarter ending 30th June 1925.

	Lb.	Per lb. Annas.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
To Stock on 1st April 1925	18,431	7·00		8,063 9 0
,, Cost of Production—				
Fruits	..	..	337 3 0	
Sugar	..	..	238 6 0	
Other raw materials	..	..	1 0 6	
Sundry Stores ..	..	..	239 8 11	
Containers	..	..	293 3 0	
Fuel	..	..	45 1 6	
Wages	..	..	684 15 8	
Petties	..	..	22 12 0	
	2,237	13·32		1,862 2 7
,, Office expenses—				
Manager's pay ..	..	..	1,185 4 0	
Staff salaries ..	..	..	817 3 0	
Bonus to Manager ..	..	..	194 6 6	
Travelling expenses	..	..	28 4 0	
Advertisement ..	..	..	261 6 6	
Packing and Transport.	..	..	106 0 3	
Printing and Stationery.	..	..	50 12 7	
Postages and Telegram.	..	..	33 15 0	
Samples	..	..	10 8 0	
		19·22		2,687 11 10
,, Other Expenses—				
Rates and Taxes ..	..	..	123 4 0	
Repairs and Renewals	..	..	14 10 0	
Experimental charges	..	..	28 6 0	
Direction charges ..	..	..	125 0 0	
Audit Fee Reserved	..	..	200 0 0	
Loose Tools, Laboratory, Utensils, Library, Road, etc., written off.	..	..	103 12 6	
		4·25		595 0 6

	Lb.	Per lb. Annas.	Rs. A. P.
By Sales—			
In April 1925 ..	1,555		
In May 1925 ..	2,574		
In June 1925 ..	2,400		
	6,529		
Less Returns ..	241		
	6,288	8·41	3,306 3 0
,, Samples	24		10 8 0
	6,312	7·00	6,280 12 0
,, Stock	14,356		
,, Less		34·02	4,400 3 11

Profit and Loss Account for the quarter ending 30th June 1925—*cont.*

	Lb.	Per lb. Annas.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.		Lb.	Per lb. Annas.	RS. A. P.
To Depreciation—					*Note*.—Cost per lb. as per Profit and Loss Account Re. 3 1·43			
On Buildings at 3 per cent.	..	..	340 0 0		*Less* Cost per lb. of Opening Stock .. ,, 0 7·00			
On Plant and Machinery at 7 per cent.	..	..	361 3 0		Cost of production per lb. ,, 2 10·43			
On Furniture at 5 per cent.	..	..	35 0 0					
On Water-supply at 7 per cent.	..	.. 5·64	53 0 0	789 3 0				
	20,668	49·43		13,997 10 11		20,668	49·43	13,997 10 11

N.B.—Interest at 5 per cent on Capital, Rs. 1,54,356-15-5 for the quarter to 30th June 1925 amounts to Rs. 1,929.

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II

Letter from J. C. NIXON, Esq., Accountant-General, Madras, to the Secretary to Government, Development Department, dated Fort St. George, the 21st November 1925, No H.A. Comml. 9-1133.

[Balance sheet of the Fruit Preserving Institute for the quarter ending 30th June 1925.]

Forwarded.

2. The withdrawals and remittances in the quarter according to the books of this office amounted to Rs. 3,826-10-11 and Rs. 3,624-1-6 against Rs. 3,667-2-11 and Rs. 4,087-7-6, respectively, shown in the balance sheet. The difference under withdrawals, viz., Rs. 159-8-0 is due to the travelling allowance of the chemical assistant paid in Madras in June 1925 not having been taken into account by the Auditors. If this is also taken into account, the loss in the quarter will be correspondingly increased.

3. The following statement gives the elements in the cost price during the past four quarters :—

	Quarter ending			
	30th September 1924.	31st December 1924.	31st March 1925.	30th June 1925.
	LB.	LB.	LB.	LB.
Quantity of jam produced ..	15,718	8,437	3,072	2,237
Cost of production per lb.—				
	AS.	AS	AS.	AS.
Materials and wages ..	6·96	8·09	13·08	13·32
Office expenses	6·01	7·82	14·58	19·22
Other expenses	0·73	1·22	11·39	4·25
Depreciation	0·72	1·32	3·64	5·64
Total ..	14·42	18·45	42·69	42·43

4. It will be seen from the following figures that while the output in the quarter ending 30th June 1925 was only about a seventh of that in the quarter ending 30th September 1924, the expenditure on 'Fruits' was about a fourth and that on 'Wages' including 'Supervision' was about a half. The reasons for the disproportionately heavy expenditure under 'Fruits' and possibly under 'Wages' are not apparent.

Quarter.	Output.	Cost of fruits.			Wages including supervision.		
	LB.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
30th September 1924 ..	15,718	1,298	8	8	1,208	12	6
31st December 1924 ..	8,437	955	9	1	783	9	6
31st March 1925 ..	3,072	809	9	8	703	9	7
30th June 1925 ..	2,237	337	3	0	684	15	8

[5th March 1926

5. The doubtful debts continue the same as in the last quarter without any diminution.

III

Letter from E. F. THOMAS, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S., Director of Industries, Madras, to the Secretary to Government, Development Department (through the Accountant-General, Madras), dated the 18th November 1925, No. 344-E/25.

In continuation of my letter No. 344-E/25, dated the 26th October 1925, I have the honour to forward herewith my remarks on the audit report on the accounts of the Fruit Preserving Institute, Coonoor, for the quarter ending 30th June 1925.

Output and cost of production—Paragraph 2 of the Auditor's report.—The quantity produced was 2,237 lb. as against 11,049 lb. during the corresponding quarter of the previous year. Owing to the large stock which had accumulated, production was limited to a minimum with a view to reduce the stock as far as possible in order to prevent its deterioration in quality. Therefore only such of the products as were out of stock or of which there was only a limited stock and such varieties of jam for the manufacture of which fruits can be had only during certain seasons were made. The large decrease in output was reflected in the increased cost of production per lb.

Sales.—Though the volume of sales, viz., 6,288 lb. during the quarter under review were considerably better than those of the previous quarter they were yet poor as compared with those of the corresponding quarter of the previous year. The falling off in demand is attributable to

(1) The influx of Australian and Holland jams which are offered at cheaper prices consequent on the advantageous exchange which has ruled in favour of importers;

(2) Prejudice against the quality and flavour of the Institute products: it is well known that persons accustomed to one quality and brand need considerable time and persuasion to abandon it in favour of a new line;

(3) Stoppage of credit system. Most of the customers were given long credit by the former Business Manager and that system has been stopped owing to the difficulty of collecting certain outstandings as a result of which some of the former customers have discontinued the purchase of the products of the Institute while others are purchasing only in smaller quantities.

5th March 1926]

Outstandings—Paragraph 3 of the Auditors' report.—Out of Rs. 1,911-2-3 shown under "Book debts" in the balance sheet, all except Rs. 493-2-3 has been collected. Necessary steps are being taken to recover these amounts. The small amounts such as 4 annas and 14 annas due from Messrs. Hankin and Bent, respectively, have been written off as already reported to Government in my letter No. 242-E/25, dated the 29th October 1925.

IV

Endorsement of the Accountant-General, No. H A. Comml. 9-1177, dated the 1st December 1925.

Forwarded in continuation of this office endorsement No. H.A. Comml. 9-1133, dated 21st November 1925.

M. SUBRAMANYAM,
Deputy Accountant-General.

To the Secretary to Government, Development Department.

Order—No. 8, *Development, dated* 4*th January* 1926.

Recorded.

2. The Director is requested to report the reasons for the disproportionately heavy expenditure under office expenses, 'fruit' and 'wages' during the quarter.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Development)

V. PANDRANG ROW,
Secretary to Government.

To the Secretary, Legislative Council, for placing the order on the Council Table

APPENDIX III.

[Vide item II Communications to the Council at page 180 supra.]

(i)

Proceedings of the sixteenth meeting of the Finance Committee for 1925-26 held on Friday, the 12th February 1926 at 2 p.m. at the Cabinet Chamber, Fort St. George.

PRESENT:

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S. (*Chairman*).
M.R.Ry. C. RAMALINGA REDDI Garu, M.L.C.
,, P. N. MARTHANDAM PILLAI Avargal, M.L.C.
,, K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN Avargal, M.L.C.
MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB Bahadur, M.L.C.
M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur K. SURYANARAYANAMURTI NAYUDU Garu, M.L.C.
G. T. BOAG, Esq., I.C.S., M.L.C.

SCHEMES FOR INTRODUCTON IN THE CURRENT YEAR.

TO BE MET BY SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND

(1) Appropriation on account of State prisoners dealt with under the Ganjam and Vizagapatam Act, 1839, and the Mappilla Outrages Act, 1859.

Abstract of the proposal.—In accordance with the entry in item 39 in Part II of Schedule I of the Devolution Rules which excluded "State Prisoners" from the list of Provincial subjects all charges on account of persons detained as State Prisoners in the Madras Presidency had up to the 8th July 1925 been debited to Central Revenues. But with the sanction of the Secretary of State, the Government of India have with effect from the above date made a distinction between persons dealt with under the Madras State Prisoners Regulation, 1819 and those dealt with under the Ganjam and Vizagapatam Act, 1839 and the Mappilla Outrages Act, 1859, and have amended the entry in item 39 of the Devolution Rules referred to above, so as to exclude only persons detained under the Madras State Prisoners Regulation, 1819 (and the corresponding regulations of Bombay and Bengal) from the list of Provincial subjects. In consequence of this decision, it has become necessary to make a provision of Rs. 2,100 for meeting the charges incurred from 8th July 1925 on account of persons dealt with under the Ganjam and Vizagapatam Act, 1839 and the Mappilla Outrages Act, 1859. The charges will be exhibited in the accounts under a new minor head "Charges on account of Mappilla and other State prisoners" under the head "25. Jails and Convict Settlements" and treated as voted. Savings are available to meet the expenditure within the grant itself, but as it is a new service a supplementary demand for Rs. 2,100 will be moved in the Legislative Council under Grant XIII.—Jails.

Recommendation of the Committee.—The Committee adjourned the consideration of this item to the 13th February.

5th March 1926]

(2) Appropriation on account of the grant of allowances to convicts released on condition of not returning to their native districts.

Abstract of the proposal.—The Government consider that a convict prematurely released from imprisonment on condition that he shall not return to his native district till the expiry of his sentence should ordinarily be granted a maintenance allowance until he is permitted to return to his native district. In pursuance of this policy it is proposed to release two Mappilla prisoners from jail who have still to serve 3 and 17 years respectively and to grant them allowances at Rs. 15 and Rs. 8 per mensem respectively. The expenditure involved on account of this proposal in the current year is Rs. 50. But, as the service is new, it is proposed to move the Legislative Council to sanction a supplementary grant for this amount under Grant XIII.—Jails.

Recommendation of the Committee.—The proposal to move a supplementary demand for Rs. 50 *in the current year was recommended by the Committee.*

TO BE MET BY RE-APPROPRIATION.

Purchase of Bethesda Mission Hospital buildings, Narasapur, for use as an Excise Circle Office and quarters for the Inspector and staff.

Abstract of the proposal.—For want of other suitable accommodation, the office of the Excise Inspector, Narasapur, is now located in a portion of the Bethesda Mission Hospital buildings on a rent of Rs 35 per mensem. As the Mission authorities are leaving India shortly, they have offered the hospital buildings for sale. It is reported that the buildings may be purchased and portions of it utilized as a Circle office, inspection bungalow, Inspector's quarters and quarters for the three clerks of the Circle office. The buildings were constructed three years ago and require only a few items of repair. The present value of the buildings together with the site is estimated at Rs. 20,000 and allowing for a total depreciation of 10 per cent for the three years, the purchase of the buildings at a cost of Rs. 18,000 is recommended. After purchase, it will be necessary to incur an expenditure of about Rs. 2,145 on the construction of a new kitchen and a stable for the Inspector. Some small repairs will be necessary but the cost is not likely to be much. There is, besides, an offer for the building from a private party and if the purchase is not made by Government, the Excise staff will have to be turned out probably at once. The cost (Rs. 18,000) can be met by reappropriation from the existing grant under "6. Excise."

Extra cost.

	1925–26.
	RS
Non-recurring	18,000

Recommendation of the Committee.—The proposal was recommended for acceptance by the Committee, the extra cost in the current year being met by reappropriation.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
13*th February* 1926.

T. E. MOIR.

[5th March 1926

(2)

Proceedings of the seventeenth meeting of the Finance Committee for 1925-26 held on Saturday the 13th February 1926 at 1-30 p.m. at the Cabinet Chamber, Fort St. George.

PRESENT:

The hon. Mr. T E. MOIR, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S. (*Chairman*).
M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur K. SURYANARAYANAMURTI NAYUDU Garu, M.L.C.
" K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN Avargal, M.L.C
" C. RAMALINGA REDDI Garu, M.L.C.
MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB Bahadur, M.L.C.
Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur, M.L.C
G. T. BOAG, Esq., I.C.S., M.L.C.

SCHEME FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE CURRENT YEAR.

TO BE MET BY A SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND.

Appropriation to meet the expenditure on account of State prisoners dealt with under Ganjam and Vizagapatam Act, 1839, and Mappilla Outrages Act, 1859.

Abstract of the proposal.—This item was brought forward at the meeting of the Finance Committee held on the 12th February 1926, and adjourned as the Committee desired to have further information with regard to the allowances paid to State prisoners and the rules governing their treatment. A further note furnishing information on these points was placed before the Committee at this meeting.

Recommendation of the Committee.—The Committee recommended the moving of a supplementary demand for Rs. 2,100 *in the current year under Grant XIII—Jails—Reserved.*

SCHEME FOR INTRODUCTION IN 1926-27.

Employment of a Sub-Assistant Surgeon in the Tuberculosis Hospital, Royapetta.

Abstract of the proposal.—Owing to the large increase in the in-patient accommodation in the Tuberculosis Hospital at Royapetta, the Government have already sanctioned the employment of the necessary additional non-medical staff. No addition has, however, been made to the medical staff which at present consists of a Superintendent, who is also the Director of the Tuberculosis Institute, and a Civil Assistant Surgeon. The number of beds has increased from 47 to 70 and the number of persons seeking accommodation has been so great that it has been occasionally found necessary to put up extra beds. The existing staff is unable to cope with the increase in work and the employment of a Sub-Assistant Surgeon is necessary. The extra cost on account of the proposal works out to Rs. 1,995. The cost in 1926-27, if the officer is appointed from the 1st April 1926, will be Rs. 1,375. It is proposed to meet the cost from the allotment already made in the budget estimates for 1926-27 under "32. b. Medical—Hospitals and Dispensaries—Presidency Hospitals—Pay of Establishments."

Recommendation of the Committee.—The proposal was recommended for acceptance.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
16*th February* 1926.

T. E. MOIR.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Saturday, the 6th March 1926.

The House met at 11 o'clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. M. RUTHNASWAMY, M.A., Bar.-at-Law) in the chair.

PRESENT:

Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E., The hon. Sir C. P.
Marjoribanks, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. N.E.
Usman Sahib Bahadur, The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad.
Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. T. E.
Raja of Panagal, The hon. the.
Patro, *Kt.*, The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Sivagnanam Pillai, *Kt.*, The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N.
Abbas Ali Khan, Mr.
Abdul Hye Sahib, Mr.
Abdul Ghatala Sahib, Mr.
Adinarayana Chettiyar, Mr. T.
Anjaneyulu, Mr. P.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
Arpudaswami Udayar, Mr. S.
Arumuga Nadar, Mr. P. K. S. A.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.
Biswanath Das Mahasayo, Sriman.
Boag, Mr. G. T.
Chidambara Nadar, Mr. A.
Cruz Fernandez, Rao Bahadur.
Davis, Mr. J. A.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Sahib.
Ethirajulu Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur P. C.
Evans, C.S.I., Mr. F. B.
Ghouse Mian Sahib, Mr. Muhammad.
Gopala Menon, Mr. C.
Gopalan, Rao Sahib P. V.
Guruswami, Mr. L. C.
Haji Qasim Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Haji Abd-ul-la.
Hegde, Mr. Naganna.
Heggade, Mr. D. Manjayya.
Kesava Pillai, C.I.E., Diwan Bahadur P.
Khadir Mohiddin Elyas Khan Sahib, Mr.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Krishnaswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur K.
MacDougall, *Kt.*, Sir Alexander.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Madhava Raja, Mr. V.
Mallesappa, Mr. T.
Marthandam Pillai, Mr. P. N.
Maruthavanam Pillai, Mr. C.
Moidu Sahib, Mr. T. M.
Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. C.
Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. S.
Muttu Chettiyar, Mr. P. C.
Narasimha Raju, Rao Bahadur C. V. S.
Narayanan Nambudiripad, Rao Bahadur O. M.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Noyce, C.S.I., C.B.E., I.C.S., Mr. Frank.
Obalesappa, Mr. B.
Pandrang Rao, Mr. V.
Prabhakaran Tampan, Mr. K.
Premayya, Mr. G.
Raghuchandra Ballal, Mr. K.
Raja, Rao Bahadur M. C.
Raja of Ramnad.
Rajan, Mr. P. T.
Raman, Rao Bahadur P.
Ramalinga Reddi, Mr. C.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Sagaram, Mr. P.
Saldanha, Mr. J. A.
Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Sarabha Reddi, Mr. K.
Sarvarayudu, Mr. K.
Sasibhushan Rath Mahasayo, Sriman.
Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. R.
Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subramania Pillai, Mr. K. Chavadi.
Sundaramurti, Rao Sahib P. V. S.
Suryanarayanamurti Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur K.
Tangavelu Pillai, Rao Sahib T. C.
Tanikachala Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur O.
Uppi Sahib, Mr. K.
Veerian, Mr. R.
Vellingiri Gounder, Mr. V. C.
Venkatachala Padayachi, Mr. K.
Venkataramana Ayyangar, Mr. C. V.
Venkatarama Sastri, Mr. T. R.
Venkatarangam Nayudu, Mr. C.
Venkataratnam, Mr. B.
Venkatareddi Nayudu, *Kt.*, Rai Bahadur Sir K.
Wood, Mr. C. E.
Zamindar of Kallikota.

I

ASSENT OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR TO THE AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDER No. 3.

The hon. the President announced that the amendments to Standing Order No. 3, passed at the meeting of the Council held on the 12th February 1926, received the assent of His Excellency the Governor on the 5th March 1926.

II

GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOR 1926-27—*cont.*

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the member.]**

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Before the general discussion on the budget is resumed, may I appeal to hon. Members to observe very strictly the time-limit so as to allow as many members, as are willing, to take part in the debate? May I specially appeal to those members who are going to make written speeches to be merciful to those who are capable of making more debating speeches? I believe their point will be gained if their written speeches are entered in the proceedings of the House. In return I would ask them to read illustrative extracts from their written speeches."

* Mr. L. C. GURUSWAMI :—" Mr. President, Sir, in placing the budget for 1926–27 before this Council the hon. Mr. T. E. Moir feels sorry in not being able to give a more attractive picture of our financial position during that year. However he has been able to find money for the nation building departments and it is gratifying to note that elementary education will have some substantial impetus given to it in the coming year. Should the creation of the new elementary schools give facility to the depressed classes also without any distinction of caste or creed, I might congratulate the Goverment on this item of expenditure. But if the ten lakhs of rupees more than the revised estimate for the year 1925–26 are to be spent as usual perpetuating the existing difference between the caste Hindu boys and non-caste Hindu boys, I would request that a big slice of it ought to be cut off for the use of the Labour Department, as the work of that department is still in its infancy and as more districts await the introduction of Labour offices.

" No doubt the Labour Department gets an increase for the betterment of the depressed classes for which I feel thankful to the Government. But I wish to point out that the provision made is very small when compared with the work that yet remains to be done. I might say that the dumb folks have not even the standing space in the onward march of education and as such some more efforts are to be made to uplift those classes of people and the Government is the only prop on which they depend.

" There seems to be a necessity for the appointment of a committee to find out the ways and means to speedily and effectively improve the very low and backward condition of the depressed classes in this Presidency and also to explore all possible means of educating the depressed classes. Further all that could be done, even as the deficit budget goes, has not been done. I have to complain that the rules for levying fees from the pupils of the depressed classes are not conducive to attract them to schools. The rigid iron rule of Grant-in-Aid Code is such that the depressed classes could not find

6th March 1926] [Mr. L. C. Guruswami]

admission in such schools which are willing to admit them, because of financial losses to the management. If sufficient provision is made to compensate for the loss by admitting them, they might find easy admissions. I suggest that this class of pupils should be exempted from fees altogether when poverty certificate is produced and half the rates should be levied from all the pupils belonging to the non-caste boys without any poverty certificate. I hope the hon. the Minister will give his sympathetic consideration to this matter.

"Taking the Labour Department itself, provision is made to extend the operations of this department to two more districts only. This means that at this rate it would take some years for the Labour Department to exercise its functions throughout the Presidency. In the face of a deficit budget one should hesitate to demand for more allotments. But taking into consideration the provision made for strengthening the staff of several departments they should embolden one to claim more money for the Labour Department too. I may even go to the extent of saying that the number of increases in several departments may be gradually done away with for the very reasons stated by the Finance Member that the time-scale provision of establishment already embarrasses the Government. I mean that these additions to the existing establishments may be checked as far as possible and a saving may be found for the purpose of nation-building departments. The Labour Department even as it is needs pruning and cutting. The high ideal of having honorary workers in these departments will be the most welcome change. But as it is there are some non-votable items and barring them every effort should be made to replace them by honorary men. I have been under the impression that as far as the city of Madras is concerned where we have the guidance of Labour Commissioner, no additional officer is needed in the person of a District Labour officer. The number of schools managed directly by the Labour officers are very few and they can be safely entrusted into the hands of honorary managers and correspondents as each school has not the encumbrance of big establishment and as each school is inspected by the Educational Department.

"One more item of expenditure I desire to comment upon. Of the many industrial institutions owned by Government that relating to the leather works seems to be unproductive of any tangible results. But the cost which it entails is very great and a very great scrutiny over this department is imperative. From G.O. No. 1500, dated 19th October 1925, I infer that the instructional side is an unsatisfactory feature and the decline in the number of applications for admissions seems to show no sign of improvement as there are no prospects for the out-going students because of the depressed conditions of the leather industry. It is true that the Leather Industry Committee has recommended the opening of new classes for the training of tannery operatives and maistris and the Government considered it worth while to give it a trial. I am of opinion that the circumstances have changed and another committee should shortly be appointed to go thoroughly into the question of not only spending more money on continuing the department itself but also on the research side of the institution. It is incumbent, I believe, on the Government to examine whether the leather trade has any prospect of improving at all and whether we can go

on spending large sums of money on it and whether it would not be worth while, in case we want to continue the department, to open a Sales department on a small scale at least."

* Mr. C. VENKATARANGAM NAYUDU :—"I was listening carefully to a number of speeches made by my hon. Colleagues from all parts of the House, some extolling the hon. the Finance Member for presenting at least a true picture of the actual financial position of the province, some expressing disappointment at another deficit budget, some regretting the extravagance in expenditure which has increased our bills to the tune of nearly four crores during the last five years of the Reforms regime, some doubting the competence of the Ministers to fight for the right of the people of the province, and some suggesting reforms of administrative detail here and there to make the life of the people somewhat more bearable, but in all these lengthy discourses which covered a wide ground, I failed to notice any realization on the part of any of my hon. Colleagues as to the causes that have operated to bring about this deplorable state of things. We are living, Sir, under a system of administration, the like of which, so far as constitutional text-books go, has never been experimented upon in any part of the civilized world—I mean the dyarchic system of administration—with its concomitant division of functions into Transferred and Reserved, the Reserved half being irresponsible to the legislature and the Ministers in charge of the Transferred half being impotent to do anything to the people of the country without the sympathy and support of the irresponsible half, with further safeguards by way of extraordinary powers being vested in the Governor to turn down any proposal emanating from the legislature, that is not to the taste of a prestige-ridden and power-intoxicated bureaucracy, which is, with some honourable exceptions, bent upon maintaining its hold on this country. It is this novel system of administration that has brought in its train all the manifold evils so picturesquely described by my hon. Colleagues in this House; and, so long as this system of Government continues, it is impossible to expect any kind of improvement in the administration. It is a painful realization of this position that has induced those of the Congress to press forward proposals to mend this system. But what is the attitude of the Government in regard to this national demand put forward by the chosen representatives of the people in the Legislative Assembly. It has been brushed aside with contempt and any resort to the well-known constitutional doctrine of 'Grievances before supplies' will, the hon. the Members of the Governor-General's Council threaten, result in the automatic restoration of rejected grants by the exercise of autocratic powers by His Excellency the Governor-General. It may be argued that this is an All-India problem, having no relation whatsoever with provincial administration, but it has to be admitted that here also such an autocratic power is exercised in a miniature form and nothing could be done to help the people. As my hon. friend Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar pointed out in the course of his observations yesterday, even the minor cuts made by this House last year have been restored by the exercise of the extraordinary powers vested in the Governor. It is now nearly seven years since the Joint Committee of Parliament recommended land revenue legislation and yet we are seriously told that the matter is still under correspondence with the Government of India and no guarantee could be given as to the exact time when legislation would be brought forward. Meanwhile, resettlements are going on as merrily as ever, increasing the

6th March 1926] [Mr. C. Venkatarangam Nayudu]

burden on the already over-burdened ryots by leaps and bounds. Amendments to the Stamp Act and Court Fees Act were made increasing the duty as a temporary measure, and yet the amended Act continues to disfigure the Statue Book, making litigation and transactions costly: the prohibition cry that is rampant in the country is heeded not and the Minister, impotent to do anything against the wishes of the Reserved half, rules it out as beyond the pale of practical politics The administration of Local Self-Government has become demoralized beyond redemption. Powers of nomination vested in the Minister to protect the interests of the minorities are being grossly abused to serve the party ends and, as an instance in point, I can refer here to the nomination of three members of a particular community to the district board in my own district in which the particular community is already over-represented The power and prestige vested in the Ministers is being utilized to consolidate the position of their own party. The Development Department continues to function in the same old undeveloping fashion with this difference that while in the pre-Reform era they were not used for any party purposes, they are now utilized to strengthen the party in power. The Agriculture Department continues yet to be an white elephant without giving any practical help to the agriculturists; the Education Department under the hon. the Excise Minister in spite of all his advertisement still has to tackle seriously the problem of primary education. The Ministers are impotent to press the claims of their own departments for more liberal grants, in spite of the declaration made expressly and impliedly by responsible authorities that a major portion of the remissions in the provincial contribution will go to meet the claims of the nation-building departments. The administration of the Forest Department continues to be as unsympathetic as ever to the poor ryots. The treatment of prisoners, especially political prisoners, is far from satisfactory. To crown this all a responsible Minister has the audacity to bring forward in this year of Grace 1926 a Bill to further restrict the liberties of local bodies

"I can go on multiplying instances, but the picture I have drawn, I trust, is sufficient to convince any reasonably-minded person that there is absolutely no chance of salvation so long as this system of administration continues. It is the realization of this truth that has induced the voters of the two districts in which bye-elections were held recently to support the Congress nominees in preference to candidates boomed and supported by the Ministerial party with all the resources at its command. As one recently returned on this programme I feel it my duty to point out that so long as the system of dyarchy with a subservient Ministry depending upon the support of the Executive for its continuance in office disfigures the Statute Book, the position of the masses of the population of this country would become more and more difficult and intolerable. It is this aspect of the matter to which I request my hon. Colleagues at least in this side of the House to turn their attention to see if time has not come, if it has not already come, to make a combined and determined effort to take such steps as would wrench real power from unwilling hands, rather than continue to be willing partners to the enaction of this farce of responsible Government which will lead nowhere."

* Mr. C. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, the hon. the Finance Member deserves all praise for the lucidity and clearness with which he presented the budget for the year 1926–27. It cannot be said that this is a gloomy 11-15 a.m.

budget; the increase in the ordinary revenues comes to about 17 lakhs, Land Revenue as usual contributing more than 50 per cent though the income from the Excise Revenue had a further fall of about one and a quarter lakhs. People may not feel much for the loss of liquor income because of the inauguration of the new policy for the reduction of the drink evil and the promotion of sobriety to some extent amongst the people who were addicted to evil habits of drink. The Land Revenue, Excise and Stamps form the bulk of our income representing nearly 90 per cent of the receipts But unfortunately the main sources of revenue are subject to the vagaries of north-east and south-west monsoons. Sometimes we get too much rain, sometimes too little, seriously affecting our income. One standing feature of our budget is that we cannot expect enough revenue to meet our expenditure. As we cannot limit our expenditure to the available revenue, we are obliged to borrow from year to year increasing our Provincial debts While the resources are limited, the expenditure is rapidly progressing. The introduction of time-scale of pay for the establishments and the provision for pension and commutation of pension largely contribute to the progressively increasing expenditure. But for the remission of the Provincial contribution of Rs. 57 lakhs granted by the Government of India, we should be much worse. Unless and until the Provincial contribution is wiped out, there will be no chance of making adequate provision for the needs of all items required for good administration in the province. In spite of the difficulties of finding funds for the normal growth of nation-building departments, it is a matter of some satisfaction that it was possible to provide about 72 lakhs for new schemes, Education getting more than 14 lakhs out of this. The provision made for granting medical relief to rural areas cannot be considered quite satisfactory. Provision made for grants to local bodies for roads and bridges is not enough; but that is limited by other considerations. The incessant demands of the people are that they should have good enough village roads connecting them with trunk roads or taluk roads. The Government should try to make ample provision for village roads. Considerable attention is paid to the maintenance of the trunk roads and other important roads in the districts. The same cannot be said of the attention paid by the Public Works Department in the matter of the maintenance and repairs of the 'water-ways' where so much capital outlay has been incurred in the past for their construction I should like to refer especially to the present undesirable condition in which the Buckingham Canal, especially in the section lying south of Madras, is kept. In the December meeting of the Council, the attention of the Government was called to this. When the Government was asked to provide adequate funds for the improvement of the canal in the budget, the hon the Law Member said that the Chief Engineer asked for a provision of Rs. 2 lakhs and 73 thousands and the Government considered that amount adequate to keep the canal open for traffic. For, there was a loud complaint of shallowness of the canal rendering boat traffic impossible in summer months of the year owing to the heavy silting of the canal and the unsatisfactory clearance of silt. I find that the demand of the Chief Engineer has not been complied with in full; for there is a provision of only Rs 2 lakhs and 50 thousands in the next year's budget. It is not known how the provision works out per mile and whether it is adequate for proper maintenance of the canal for purposes of navigation. The people have complained bitterly that it is very

difficult for the easy passage of boats laden with all kinds of cargo and passengers. We do not maintain roads *from a profit point of view.* It is more for the convenience of the people. It is from this point of view that the Government should consider the question of the provision of a few dredgers for the clearance of the silt. These waterways do really contribute to the convenience of the public, for the improvement of trade and commerce, especially along the coast of the south of Madras where there are no metal roads along the coast. This canal is highly useful to the people of the villages bordering on its whole length for the purpose of navigation and easy transit.

"I hope the hon. Member will see his way to provide better facilities by providing a few dredgers for keeping the canal dug deep enough for purposes of proper navigation. I even doubt whether proper values are got for the money spent in the clearence of the silt for, more often than not, the silts cleared out of the canal are not removed and deposited *further away* but put on the berm. When there are rains, all the silts are easily washed back into the canal, rendering the works of the silt clearance a farce, involving the loss of public money. Instructions should be issued to the officers concerned to see that the silts are removed to some distance to preclude them from coming back into the canals so very easily.

"I hope the hon. the Law Member will come with a supplementary demand for funds in the usual course to make better provision for the proper maintenance of the Buckingham Canal."

*Mr. NAGANNA HEGDE:—"I am not at all surprised at the unsatisfactory and disappointing feature of the budget that resulted in a net deficit of 76 lakhs and odd considering the indifference and the obstinacy of the Government in not having adopted the policy of retrenchment from the top.

"I understand that there is a proposal to reduce the number of police stations in the Presidency. So far as the district of South Kanara is concerned, it is a step in the wrong direction. Probably this may be due to the adoption of the policy of retrenchment. Merely for the sake of retrenchment policy, abolition of police stations and reduction of the number of constables are rather unwise and call for re-examination. Of late, crimes, heinous and otherwise, escape detection and culprits are let off for want of sufficient evidence. This is due to the defect in the investigation of cases. While it is so, how is it possible to expect a good administration when the root of the service itself is cut down? No attempt has been made to reduce the number of higher officers and it is indeed ridiculous to effect retrenchment at the bottom which should all the more be strengthened for the protection of life and property. It is absolutely impossible to think of any such change in the district of South Kanara where houses in the villages are separated miles apart; and justice will fail and the safety of the people will be at stake if the proposal is given effect to. I request that the hon. the Law Member will go through this question once more and afford protection to the people of this district by not giving effect to this drastic change.

"Of the very few departments that give a poor return and no relief to the people, the Forest Department is one and several high-paid officers are maintained at an enormous cost and such a large establishment is indeed

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superfluous and retrenchment in this line is quite possible without detriment to the efficient administration of the department. The increased cost of the establishment under Forest with high officers do not improve the system of administration, but, on the other hand, tends to demoralise by harassing the poor, by imposing prohibitive fees and launching petty prosecutions under the false pretences of the Forest Act by the subordinate officials of the department, and those who suffer most under the category are chiefly agriculturists who own cattle and who require green leaves for manure and firewood. The restrictions placed on such people are tales of woe and hardship, and it is the duty of the Government to see that these restrictions are removed at once and facilities afforded to the public. Of course, I understand that something has been done by way of amelioration to remedy the defects at the instance of some of the hon. Members of this House, but that is not sufficient. And so it is high time that the Government should rise to the occasion and do something tangible and relieve the poor from such distress. For instance, the removal of the forest boundary a mile from the vicinity of the patta land was considered and passed by the House some time back and no action has yet been taken in giving effect to this resolution. The various disadvantages arising from the forest being in close proximity with patta land were fully discussed and gone through when the above resolution was passed. In the reserved forests plants and leaves are allowed to grow in abundance which very often serve as a shelter to wild animals so much so that the safety to life and property is always at stake. These plants are useful for manuring purposes and, if these green leaves are permitted to be used for agricultural purposes, agriculture will be greatly improved. Grazing of cattle should also be allowed on payment of a nominal fee, if necessary, as in these days cattle suffer most for want of proper fodder. Greater concession is to be given to the pattadars in their enjoyment of the kumaki lands as, for example, in South Kanara respective pattadars are taken to task for a small forest offence committed by an unknown person on the kumaki. It is hoped that necessary instructions will be issued to the local authorities concerned for the proper exercise of their discretion in the matter.

"Another department that is maintained at a maximum of cost with a minimum of return is Agriculture. I am not against the improvement of agriculture on more advanced lines. But all that I wish to say is that instructions should be made cheaper and more popular. Uniformity must be maintained. For instance the district of South Kanara is a very big one but cannot boast of having any agricultural farms or centres. There is a vast scope for improvement of agriculture in this district in Uppinangudi and Karkal taluks. Extensive areas are lying waste uncultivated, because no agricultural facilities are being given to this district. Though it is close to Malabar it is quite different. There is only one coconut farm at Kasaragod, but this does not serve the purpose. Nor is it likely that one will answer the needs of such a big district where more than one agricultural farm is necessary. The district is backward in easy communications not being scattered in all directions. It is therefore absolutely necessary that each taluk should have one farm. By this agriculture will be greatly improved. To help this, co-operative societies in rural areas should be opened in large numbers so much so that the return will amply justify the introduction of this system in the district.

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" The district of South Kanara is also behind her other sister districts in the matter of industrial education. The mere fact that greater facilities in this direction have been given to the metropolis in preference to the mufassal stations some of which have been completely neglected does not deserve any commendations or praise on the part of the Development Department. Cottage industries should be introduced in all possible ways in the elementary schools according to the nature of the locality. And weaving, coir making and smithy which are really essential for the masses should also be introduced in the model schools. It is hoped that greater consideration will be shown to this subject and further developments in this direction are expected at no distant date. It is only by promoting the course of industry that the poverty of the country will be relieved.

" As for medical aid more hospitals are necessary and the opening of hospitals is no doubt very costly. In the case of South Kanara and Malabar districts, the home of Ayurvedic system of medicine, it would be quite possible and convenient to open a large number of Ayurvedic institutions in the district and the needs of the people will thereby be satisfied.

" Separate hospitals for women and children are needed for the district. There is only one such hospital at Mangalore but it is located in a most unhealthy and insanitary locality. The Government have promised to contribute a large sum for the improvement of this hospital building but no steps have yet been taken regarding this. As I have pointed out already this district is devoid of easy communications and as such as many dispensaries as are necessary to suit the requirements of this district should be opened. I hope that the Government would devote some attention to the matter of giving medical relief to the people of this district.

" Before resuming my seat, I wish to remind the Government of the unfortunate predicament the people of South Kanara were in during the last two years, in the first year, of the immense loss in lives and property sustained by the heavy floods and in the next, by failure of the monsoon in the early part of the year and floods in the later part of it and the consequent failure of crops, and the circumstances are so very deplorable that I appeal to the Government to show some remission in the matter of land revenue.

" In conclusion I trust the Government will agree to my suggestion and give them a considerate response in the interest and welfare of the humanity at large."

* Rao Bahadur M. C. Raja :—" Mr. President, Sir, the first and foremost charge on the exchequer of all civilized governments is the amelioration of the condition of what are called the depressed classes. They are the real producers of wealth in this country. It is they that enable the landed aristocracy to pay heavy taxes to the State. The mirasidars' pride is based upon the sweat of the labourers on the field and the merchant fattens upon the profits earned by the despised coolie. Are not these depressed classes responsible for the land revenue of 746 lakhs and Excise revenue of 485 lakhs? On the whole it is they that enable Government to realize a revenue of 1,231 lakhs out of a total revenue of 1,634 lakhs. Under these circumstances, is it not just and proper that a considerable amount of the revenue should be earmarked for my people and spent in relieving their distress and 11-30 a.m.

in giving their children better education with an agricultural bias and in improving their status and their present deplorable condition for which they are not responsible? If this is done, my people will be in a better condition to produce more wealth in the country and thus enable Government to realize more revenue in the shape of land revenue, as agriculture is the mainstay of the country, and as my people are employed in the productive industries of the land. Nation-building should be directed towards the amelioration of the condition of one-sixth of the population that have been kept down by the caste-proud Hindus for ages. Nation-building will all be tall talk if the activities are not directed towards the uplift of these wailing millions who are the real sons of the soil. After all, was it not the bureaucratic Government that created the department of the Commissioner of Labour, called at the initial stage as the department of the protector of the depressed classes? It has been in existence for the past eight years. If you take stock of what the department has achieved for all these years you will find it is very little. If at this rate the department is going to function its work, and it is a very difficult work indeed, it will take ages for the department to reach all parts of the Presidency. Now, I wish to draw attention to the slowness and slackness which prevails in the Labour department with regard to the work of amelioration among the depressed classes. It is not perhaps fair to blame the officials in the Labour office; but the system under which they have to work, a system for which the Party in power was then responsible, is so devised that efficient work cannot be carried on under it. The work that is now done by the department is so half-hearted subject to uncertainties and whimsicalities of so many persons and parties and communities that it stands in ominous contrast to the straightforward ethical directness of the activities of the department under the old bureaucratic Government. The Labour Commissioner assisted as he then was by the deputy collectors, men of influence, initiative and command, was an embodiment of the conscience of the State with regard to the wrongs under which the depressed classes suffered from time immemorial. The first concerted action of the British Government for the uplift of the depressed classes, the fruit of nearly a quarter of a century of discussion, was rendered ineffective by that vote of this Council in 1922. I refer to the abolition of the posts of assistant labour commissioners. During the past four years the department had a chequered career and deputy tahsildars acting under the orders of District Collectors have been appointed for introducing and carrying out ameliorative measures. It is a notorious fact that these men do not command one-tenth of the respect and influence the deputy collectors acting as agents of the Labour Commissioner did. The abolition of the posts of the assistant labour commissioners was a death-blow to the department. These assistant labour commissioners were able to see things for themselves without being carried away by the glamour of interested persons. These were men who were able to bring into play the courage and independence moderated by the tact and patience so essential for carrying on the beneficient work entrusted to them. To deprive the Labour Commissioner of the services of such men is to paralyse his work. Unless and until such men are appointed to do this real nation-building work, the department, as it is now manned by deputy tahsildars and tahsildars, will not be able to carry on the original good intentions for which this special department was created. We are thankful

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to His Excellency Lord Goschen for the interest and sympathy which His Excellency all along evinced in the welfare and progress of my community. His Excellency knows better than many Indian politicians that India's progress and attainment of Swaraj depend upon my people being uplifted. Hence his patriotic sympathy towards us. I know how grateful my people are to His Excellency for his direct influence in averting the eviction of the Adi-Dravida tenants from Mackay's Gardens in Madras. This is but one example of His Excellency's statesmanlike kindness towards us It is a melancholy fact that in the distribution of the remitted provincial contributions no allotment has been made for the Labour department and yet if there is one department of Government which may be said to be a nation-building department it is the department which is to look after the depressed classes. The fact of the matter is that the depressed classes are not regarded as children of the soil, as sons of India, but as aliens within the house who ought to be kept down so that they may not raise their heads. When such is the attitude of the powerful classes in this country what moral right have they to protest against the treatment accorded to the Indians in South Africa? If we were really in earnest about qualifying the country for Swaraj by raising the depressed classes, we would have a Labour Member in the Cabinet whose sole and exclusive attention will be confined to the labouring classes. There are a thousand things to be done for them, educationally, economically and so on.

" Education is the most crying need of the depressed classes more even than of the other classes. There are a number of scattered schools conducted by the Labour department but they have no separate inspecting agency to maintain a high standard of efficiency. I do not want them to be handed over to the Education Department, but I propose that a special inspecting agency should be created under the control of the Labour Commissioner for supervising schools for depressed classes.

" The other day the Education Minister when confronted with the amount of drunkenness among the poor and labouring classes said that education was the best cure for drink. But if there is any sincerety in that plea, I should like to see more schools and much better schools for the sole benefit of these classes than are to be found to-day. The allotment set apart for the amelioration of the depressed classes is not at all encouraging, seeing the great bulk of the people, their deplorable condition and the immense work that lies before us. The work of the amelioration of the condition of the depressed classes is now being carried on in the districts of Tanjore, Godavari, Chingleput, South Arcot, Kistna, Guntur, Bellary, Trichinopoly and South Kanara. It will be interesting to know how far and in how many taluks in each of the above districts the operations have been really carried on. Here also it is not fair for me to belittle the work of the district labour officers, for, as I said just now, they are either tahsildars or deputy tahsildars with a very limited establishment under them. I hope at least from this year the hon. Members of this Council, I mean the Indian Members who have been ceaselessly fighting for provincial automony and for swaraj, will not starve out this nation-building department and in the distribution of grants will give the first and foremost consideration to this department.

[Mr. M. C. Raja.] [6th March 1926

"Looking through the Education Budget, I am glad to note that the Minister for Education has extended his hand towards non-Government institutions. After all, it is the non-Government institutions that require substantial aid from Government. Were not these missionaries the pioneers in the field of education in this country? Is it not to them that we owe a debt of gratitude? Education ought to be the first demand on the State purse, and I am glad my hon. Friend, Sir Patro, has taken a lion's share this year and wisdom demands that the State should aid, and aid liberally, these private agencies which have generously and from pure public spirit stepped in to aid the Government in doing work which they ought to do themselves, and which if they try to do they will have to spend four times of what they now give to private agencies. It is a mistake to call private-managed schools aided schools, as if they receive aid or alms from Government. They are not *aided* schools but *aiding* schools, for they really aid the Government. Although I see some improvement in the figures in the Budget, yet they are not adequate. I am glad to see an increase in the scholarships. May I request the hon. the Minister for Education to issue special directions to the officers concerned to consider the claims of depressed classes while awarding scholarships. Nothing gives me greater pleasure than to see a provision of Rs. 1,000 for the boy-scouts' association and a provision of Rs. 3,000 for the girl-guide associations. One special feature for which I wish to congratulate the hon. the Minister for Education is the provision he has made in this Budget for a special officer for Mappilla education. This is a step in the right direction. I have asked many a time in this Council for the creation of a special inspecting agency for depressed class education. Our claims for this are much greater than those of the Muhammadans and Mappillas. Our population is 7 millions and that of the Muhammadans is nearly 3 millions. There are 3,250 institutions for Muhammadans with 172,362 pupils. And there are 987 schools for Mappillas with 6,992 pupils. Whereas there are 9,609 schools for depressed classes with 265,206 pupils. These figures clearly point out the necessity for a special inspecting agency for looking after the education of the depressed classes.

"I find that though an order was passed in 1919 that no school maintained solely from public funds should be allowed to refuse admission to pupils of the depressed classes, yet in 1925 a Government Order issued by the Education Ministry says that in the districts of Kistna, Chingleput, South Arcot, Ramnad and Salem there are local board schools located in places inaccessible to the depressed classes. I would suggest that, in the case of such schools, subsidies by Government should be withdrawn. This would automatically compel local bodies to conform to the orders of Government in the matter of admitting depressed classes pupils.

"The Government Order from which I have just now quoted says that the solution of all problems of elementary education can be solved only by introducing the element of compulsion. I may say that whether compulsory education is necessary for other classes or not, it is absolutely necessary for the depressed classes. If it is said that depressed classes parents are more anxious to send their children to wage-earning occupations than to schools, that only shows that their economic condition prevents them from availing themselves to the full of the educational facilities provided by Government. The remedy is that the economic burden on the parents should be lightened

by a small subsidy being paid to the poor parents who send their children to school. If this is too large a proposition for some of the hon. Members with their traditional and hereditary apathy towards my people, I would suggest as a minimum relief to parents that a meal be provided at midday to pupils who attend schools This will act as an attractive incentive to pupils and parents alike.

"Another department of Education which requires more effort on the part of the Government is girls' education. There are not sufficient secondary schools and efficient ones for the large number who pass through the elementary course. It may be urged that it is difficult to find suitable women teachers for the purpose. In this connexion it is important that the Widows Home started with the idea of educating a class of women who would otherwise remain a burden and an eyesore in the Hindu society, so that in course of time--not within a few years but in the course of two or three decades—a large group of women teachers might spring up amongst them, should be maintained in full strength. There was a time when the institution was subjected to a great deal of criticism on account of its sectional bias; but now its constituency has been widened and widows from all classes are receiving education in it, I trust that ample funds will be found for extending the usefulness of this most benevolent institution. When talking of widows, one's thoughts naturally turn to orphans. For what does the Bible say: 'Pure religion and undefiled before God and man is this: to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.' I understand that in the matter of giving support to orphanages, Government makes a distinction between orphan destitutes and non-orphan destitutes. I wish to point out that a child may have parents living and yet be an orphan, that is to say that the parents may be so feeble and disabled that their children are as bad as orphans. I understand that such children are treated and rightly treated as orphans in European orphanages. I submit that the same comprehensive policy of orphans may be followed with regard to Indian orphanages.

"I hope I may draw attention in this Council to another class of unfortunate humanity who require the help of the Government. I refer to the deaf, the dumb and the blind for whose benefit a few institutions have been started in this Presidency. It is a pity that Government have not thought it fit to start such institutions themselves. The best thing that they could do is to help those who are doing this work. All these institutions are maintained and managed by private agencies. The Government may discharge its duty in this respect by giving liberal aid to them. I am glad to mention that the Canoness' Mission of St. Augustine have started a school for the blind, the deaf and the dumb under the able management of Rev. Mother M. Arsen in Mackay's Gardens where my people live in considerable numbers.

"In conclusion, I would invite the attention of this Council to the working of rule 92 of the Madras Educational Rules which professes to help pupils of backward and depressed classes by insisting that they should be charged half-fees where the parents are so poor that this concession is necessary to enable them to continue their education. The Government undertake when this concession is made by aided schools to make good the other half of the fee. But the aid is calculated at standard rates of fees which

are lower than the rates charged by aided schools in the interests of efficiency. Thus the school which gives this concession suffers a loss in the case of each boy of the amount of difference between the standard rate and the actual school rate. The temptation in such cases is to refuse admission to pupils of depressed classes, and I am afraid it is coming to that, since their admission is a source of loss to the management. As things stand at present, the only schools where depressed classes are freely admitted are the mission schools, and by the working of this rule 92 they are penalised by the department for helping the depressed classes. This is as it should not be and the sooner the Government undertake to make good the loss sustained by the schools for doing a work which the Government are morally bound to do themselves the better will it be for the country as a whole."

11-45 a.m. * Rao Bahadur CRUZ FERNANDEZ :—" Mr. President, Sir, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate the hon. the Finance Member for presenting this year rather a satisfactory Budget.

" Out of a total expenditure of Rs. 72,55,000, a sum of Rs. 14,59,000 goes to education, say 20 per cent which is no doubt satisfactory. Out of this amount only 3·13 lakhs have been allotted for the opening of elementary schools. The salvation of India mainly depends upon the literacy of its people and I therefore think that the hon. Minister for Education should increase the amount towards the expansion of elementary education. In fact, each village must have a Government school. Of course, care must be taken not to establish a school in the village where there is already a private or misssionary school. In the village where a Government school is not established, a satisfactory grant must be given to the existing private or missionary school.

" On account of a recent Government Order differentiating backward from depressed classes, the Director of Public Instruction has mercilessly reduced the annual grants by a large amount for very important missionary schools which have been producing very good results and spending large sums of money towards equipment. Some school managers have appealed to Government for reconsidering the orders of the Director, and I do hope the hon. Minister will favourably consider the appeals. There should be no distinction between backward and depressed communities without any regard to the religion which they may profess. Government are under the impression that when a member of the backward or depressed community becomes a convert to Christianity, his social status is improved and he suddenly becomes rich enough to pay full fees. The case is otherwise. His expenses increase as he imitates refined societies. By this misapprehension, all the concessions which a member of the backward or depressed community was enjoying previous to his conversion are withdrawn. The result is that many of the students of the backward community have to leave the school on account of the expensive education. Why should a religion be penalised for such a conversion ?

" Female education also suffers a good deal by the withdrawal of the concessions which we are granted to them. Female students must be given all possible concessions without any regard to the religion they may profess. It is under the consideration of the Government to take steps to relieve the unemployment of the educated middle classes and a committee also has been

appointed for the purpose of advising Government. This is a broad subject to deal with and it remains to be seen what the committee is going to advise Government on the subject. The only way to relieve the position will be to open vocational classes from the lowest class in the elementary school to teach agriculture, carpentry, smithy, fitting, spinning, etc., and when a student comes up to the third or sixth form he will have sufficient culture in him and he will be a proper workman himself. He will be able to eke out his livelihood without waiting upon Government or commercial offices in search of a quill-driving job. By these means the position will be relieved. In fact, each secondary school must have a small factory attached to it where all the technical subjects will be taught. Government also should give grants towards the upkeep of such factories.

" Public health of our Presidency is far from satisfactory. More rural dispensaries should be opened. The sum of Rs. 34,000 allotted for the whole Presidency is very small In fact, there must be a rural dispensary duly equipped as far as possible within a radius of five miles. Deaths by cholera are increasing and in fact in many districts the epidemic is rather permanent. It is needless to say that unless the quality of the drinking water in the rural parts is improved, cholera cannot be eradicated. The district health officers and the health inspectors are doing good work in this respect and the Director of Public Health is to be congratulated for the keen interest he takes upon the health of especially rural parts through his district staff. By opening a larger number of rural dispensaries, Government are also providing a larger number of medical officers who have been turned out of their services on account of retrenchment in the Medical department, Almost nothing is being done in the way of improving the village roads and rural water-supply. It is only by the opening of more rural roads, we shall be able to improve the economic condition of the villagers and by improving the rural water-supply we shall be able to eradicate the various water-borne epidemics that are prevalent in the country and reduce the rate of mortality. More money should be allotted under these headings and then only the ryots who have been ever grumbling for the payment of the various taxes will be rather consoled that something is being done as a return for the tax he pays. The question of having an up-to-date hospital at Tuticorin is hanging for many years and successive Governors and other Members of Government have strongly condemned the present condition of the hospital and advised the municipality to have a better hospital. Of course, Government is always prepared to pay its half share for the construction of the hospital, but the municipality cannot find its means to defray the other half. Hence the question is dragging on for many years. As Tuticorin will shortly have a harbour and will be a centre of commercial activities, both European and Indian, it is very necessary that Government should provide an up-to-date hospital fully at Government expense without waiting for any contributions from the municipality which always pleads poverty and has got many improvements to make out of municipal funds. Of course, the municipalities will run the dispensaries which are to be run in the other parts of the town at its own cost. I request therefore Government should give their immediate attention to this subject at an early date.

" Again the Tuticorin water-supply scheme is pending for the last twelve years and nothing has come out of it although the municipal council has accepted by the end of last year the latest estimate of 25 lakhs and agreed

to tax $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent water-tax to meet the half cost of the scheme. Now the Superintending Engineer has sent a revised estimate for 32 lakhs, say, about 28 per cent over the original estimate. At this rate of revising the estimates every three months, there will be no end to the communications between the Government and the Municipal Council, the result being that the water-works are being delayed and the materials which have already been supplied in the head works are rotting and unless such materials are made use of at once, there will be another revision of estimates to replace the rotten and worn-out materials, which will be another 25 per cent over the present estimate. It is therefore requested that prompt orders may be passed by Government to recommence the water-works and the details can be settled between the council and the Government after they are commenced.

"The nomination of Indian Christians is not at all considered by the presidents of the various boards although suitable candidates are available in the areas. As regards the Tinnevelly—Ramnad district constituency, for which I am a representative, in the Tinnevelly district, there are 30 union boards of which only 13 have nominated Indian Christians, although there is a large population of Christians in the above two districts. It is requested that the hon. the Chief Minister will issue strict orders to the various boards in the Presidency to see that the Indian Christians are nominated in each and every board.

"The Agricultural department has not done sufficient work in the district in the way of propaganda work to improve the cotton and other cultivation. Experimental farms have been established in important centres where are railway stations and it is the rural population which has to be educated towards the improvement in cultivation. The demonstrators must show more touring work in the district. Model farms should be established in the interior, so that ryots may be induced to visit the farms conveniently and more frequently and see for themselves the improved cultivation of cotton and paddy.

"There is a scheme for the opening of a marine school at Vizagapatam. Tuticorin is a more suitable place to open such a school as there is a large population of seafaring people in and around Tuticorin who are fit to be efficient mariners. It is not my idea that Government should give up the idea of opening the marine school at Vizagapatam in favour of Tuticorin. I meant only an additional school at Tuticorin. By this way both the east coast and the south coast may be benefited. Tuticorin has a better claim, because it is expected that the Fisheries department will be able to show a good surplus from the pearl fisheries which are being conducted at Tuticorin and any surplus may be advantageously utilized for the purpose of establishing the marine school at Tuticorin which will also relieve the economic distress of the people there.

"Thanks to the hon. the Law Member for the allotment of sufficient funds in 1925 and 1926-27 for the repair of breaches in the Tambarabharani river. Especially under the north main channel at Srivaikuntam anicut works must be expedited as far as possible. It is unfortunate that in the very places where the breaches occurred during the 1923 floods and repairs were made, breaches occurred in 1925 also and the money spent on such repairs had to be respent.

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"On account of the recent floods, many lands under the Srivaikuntam north main channel were silted up and majority of such lands have been rendered uncultivable for a few years until such silt is removed at a large expense. Proper remissions of taxes should therefore be given to the ryots.

"Somehow or other popular opinion is that the removal of the trees from the Papanasam hills will have adverse influence upon the rains. The opinion of the scientists and other experts may be otherwise. In any case, people may be sufficiently educated on this point, and it will be advisable to appoint a committee of officials and non-officials to discuss the question and report to the Government before final orders are passed.

"By the Mettur and Kattalai schemes, all the districts north of Tinnevelly will be benefited. But the Tinnevelly district is waiting for the Papanasam storage reservoir scheme to be put on hand. It is expected that the hon. the Law Member will also take some interest in the improvement of irrigation in the southernmost district of the Presidency and launch the Papanasam scheme during the year 1927-28.

"As regards communal representation in public services it is a matter for regret that the claims of the Indian Christian community are greatly ignored. If the statistics are examined there is only a mere sprinkling in the various services. As regards literacy it excels every other community. In the Judicial Department there are only three or four people and so also in other services also. Whenever there is an opportunity of appointing probationary officers, say revenue inspectors, deputy tahsildars, deputy superintendents of police, etc., it is requested that the claims of the Indian Christian community are favourably considered."

* Rao Sahib P. V. Gopalan:—"Mr. President, Sir, the estimates for 1926-27 prepared by the hon. the Finance Member are expected to close with a deficit balance and we hope the hon. the Finance Member will give us a surplus budget next year. I had been putting a series of interpellations regarding the hard fate of the ill-paid copyists of the civil courts. I trust the hon. the Law Member will take early steps to improve their lot at least similar to that of the clerks of the Registration department. The only thing that I would request of the hon. Minister for Education is the appointment of committees in all the districts consisting of non-official members of each district with the district educational officer as the president for the purpose of selecting pupil-teachers in the several training schools in each district. The present system does not entitle members of backward and depressed communities to be duly selected. I have been impressing on the mind of the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government through a series of interpellations the necessity to allot funds for bridging the unbridged rivers in North Malabar and for the extension of the trunk road from Calicut to Payyanur. Several representations have been made to him and several petitions have been sent to him. To my greatest disappointment I find that not a single river has yet been bridged in North Malabar.

"The condition of the backward communities in Calicut and other places in Malabar require special consideration in respect of providing them with burial-grounds. It was but last week—and I know the Collector of Malabar is aware of it—that plague was heavily raging at Calicut and

several dead bodies had to be buried in the heart of the town and thereby spoil the health of the city. I hope the hon. Minister will consider the question of providing burial-grounds for the backward and depressed classes in Calicut. I hope he will allow a decent sum for the drinking-water question of the municipalities of Calicut and Cannanore. Mr. President, the time at my disposal to go into the details is rather limited and I therefore confine myself only to the Fisheries department which is under the portfolio of the hon. Minister for Development. I note that the provision made in the budget for the Fisheries department as a whole for 1926-27 is Rs. 6,74,500 and the provision made for new schemes relating to this head is only Rs. 13,100. Out of the six new schemes I find there is hardly a single one worth the name of a new scheme. It is more or less a development of the existing schemes.

12 noon " As regards the Tanur Experimental station, the fact that the institution is incurring heavy losses year after year has become almost proverbial. I suggested last year that the experiments, if at all anything is carried there, can be conducted by the Oil Chemist of the Government Kerala Soapery at Calicut who has a laboratory attached to the soapery, or can better be handled by the Research Assistants of the Government fisheries at West Hill, Calicut, rather than keeping an establishment heavily paid by the Government at Tanur. For in spite of the good income from the coconut trees of this station, heavy loss is the result every year.

" Coming to the transfer of the fish-curing yard from the Salt department to the Fisheries department, I find that it has not resulted in any material advantage to the poor fisherfolk. The price of the salt was raised by 100 per cent, and the establishment and other charges have to be paid by these poor fisherfolk. Till 1924 all those charges were debited under Salt Revenue. The plea put forward by the Government that it is an experimental measure has had the effect of reducing the poor fishermen to disappointment, penury and giving Government a good profit. The idea seems to have been to elevate the economic condition of the poor fisherfolk, but in this case, the very thrust of the dagger has been used against them. Government Order No. 292, dated 14th February 1924, stated that the fishermen should either pay an increased price for their salt or they must meet the establishment charges, but to my great surprise in the last year's business of 170,000 maunds of salt which costs to Government 9 pies or so per maund at the place of manufacture, Rs. 1½ lakhs have been shown as establishment charges. Thus the fishermen are made to pay an increase of 100 per cent for fish-curing salt and also the whole establishment charges of the department. This is not the sense of the above Government Order I have quoted.

" In my budget speech last year, I urged on Government the necessity for the construction of pucca sanitary buildings for the several elementary schools under the control of this department on the west coast. A year has passed now and nothing substantial has been done so far, and I hope the hon. the Minister for Development would see that something is done at least this year. If these institutions are to be under the Educational department, the department would never have such rickety buildings. Another thing I have to mention before the House is that the Fisheries department will see that the construction works are given to contractors after calling for tenders as otherwise much lack of supervision and unnecessary loss are sustained by

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the department. The Government have their Public Works Department to carry on such construction work and I cannot understand why their services are not utilized. We are all aware of the unauthorized cess collection of Rs. 12,000 from the curers of Tanur fish-curing yard by some wonderful capacity of a subordinate officer of the Development Minister and the payment of Rs. 6,100 and odd to one who was said to be a contractor, and the Public Works Department when requested to value the sheds constructed said the buildings were not worth even half the value paid. It is years since this embezzlement took place, and this year I brought to the notice of this House and the Minister for Development, and so far he has not made any arrangement to refund the money collected from the poor starving fishermen. I may mention here for the information of this House and the Development Minister in particular, that the financial and economic conditions of the fisherfolk are so very poor that anybody would feel for them. They had Rs. 70 lakhs worth of oil and guano business in 1922-23, but only Rs. 40 lakhs worth of business was done in 1923-24, and to make things worse, only Rs. 10 lakhs business was done in 1924-25, besides the heavy loss sustained by them in men and material this year owing to the unfortunate cyclone distress If it is not now that the Minister comes to their rescue, I do not know when he will have a chance of showing his sympathy in relieving their economic distress.

"As regards the canneries, the commercial accountants to the Government of Madras, Messrs. Fraser and Ross, have been preparing balance sheets and audit reports one after the other and all these show that the cannery is working at a very heavy loss The advisability of closing it down has been considered by Government on more than one occasion, and I believe that except for the educative value which it is supposed to give, there is nothing in its favour for its retention. The hon. the Minister for Development will, I trust, take early steps to clear all the idle stock in hand and also sell or lease the same to any business concern.

"In passing, I wish to bring to the notice of this House that owing to lack of proper supervision and advice from experienced and business-like officers having technical knowledge of the various questions affecting the betterment and improvement of the fisher people, our Fisheries department has been able to make a poor show. To cite an instance, recently large quantities of mackerals used for edible purposes had to be buried or dried and used as manure being sold for cheap prices, for want of salt in the fish-curing yard at Malpe This is nothing but want of foresight of the so-called officers of the Fisheries department. To overcome all such unpleasantness, loss and disappointment, I would propose for the favourable consideration of this House the appointment of a standing committee consisting of prominent members of the fisher communities of the west coast with a view to offering advice to the officials of the Fisheries department in matters relating to the welfare of the fisher communities.

"I wish to say a few words about the question of inaugurating a number of co-operative societies among the poor fisherfolk. The number of societies in 1924-25, it is stated, has risen from 54 to 56, but they have been hopelessly mismanaged. There are societies not visited by the Fishery officers for the past two or three years together. The department simply wants to increase the number of societies without seeing to their proper actual working. The co-operative department does not want to take up these

societies, as they will bring bad name for them, since they are very badly managed. Hence they shirk responsibility. The excuse given is that the season is bad I am sure only a bad season is the time most suitable for developing co-operative societies.

"These are the few remarks, with which I will be content to make on this occasion."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"Mr. President, when Sir Charles Todhunter presented his budget two years ago, he said that he hoped to see light in the future and that we were just then out of the woods. But I say we are still very much in the woods, and we are going to end this year with a big deficit. What light Sir Charles talked of is yet to come, and I do not know when it will come. I am not a great believer in deficit budgets, because I think we ought to cut our coat according to the cloth and try to meet expenditure out of revenue, unless we are going to spend the money on productive enterprises like the Mettur project. In cases where there is going to be no productivity, I think it ought to be the duty of the Members of Government to find the money from revenue itself, and it is a well known fact that as far as this province is concerned our revenue is not an elastic one The revenue is very inelastic, and I think we have reached a stage from which we cannot go further. For instance, the two great productive revenues of this province are excise and land revenue. In my opinion, land is taxed highly enough at present, and as for excise there is a great cry for prohibition, and then my hon. Friends on the other side tabled a resolution that they would like to see prohibition introduced in twenty years' time. When such is the case, I think it is time that our Finance Member thought of trying to meet expenditure from revenue and not go on thinking that because the Government of India are going to give back some part of our contributions we can go on budgeting for deficits. I heard it said seriously by one of the Members on the other side that if we go on budgeting for deficits the Government of India will consider that it is time they remitted our contributions. On the other hand, I think, Sir Basil Blackett, when took charge of the Finance Department of the Government of India, said that he would have no sympathy with provinces who could not make both sides of their budgets balance. I am sure he will think twice before he proposes to give back any money to this province because we seem to go on budgeting for deficits year after year. If we are going to end this year with a small balance, that I think is due to the fact that my hon. Friends the Ministers have had to give up some of their allotments because they could not spend them during the year. With these remarks, I wish to turn to the departments.

"I shall begin with my hon. Friend, the Law Member, who is in charge of Irrigation. I am sorry, Sir, the Irrigation Bill has come back again to this House, when we hoped we had seen the end of it and that the hon. the Law Member had had in his hand an instrument with which he was going to make milk flow in this province. But we were very much mistaken, and evidently he thinks that the measure is not stringent enough for him to introduce any big schemes I hope when that Bill does came back to this Council, the Council will turn its back to it and say 'we have done with it'.

"Now, with regard to the Mettur project, Sir, I am sure the hon. the Law Member is aware of the little note I wrote to him about my own district I think that Salem and Coimbatore are to be treated in a fair manner, because,

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as far as Salem is concerned—I am talking from personal experience of this district—if Cauvery water is not given to us, the plight of the district will be much worse than this year, and with the series of bad years we have had during the last three years, the condition of the ryot population of the district is really very bad, and I am sure if the hon. the Law Member will find time to tour in the district, he will find in what dire need of water the people suffer from.

"With regard to jails, Sir, I hope the hon. the Home Member read the speech of His Excellency Lord Lytton, Governor of Bengal, at the Rotary Club, Calcutta, wherein he said that Indian prisons are not conducted in any scientific manner. I think it is time that a scientific plan by which the condition of the prisoners will be really improved is adopted. I hope the hon. Member in charge will bear that in mind.

"As for education, Sir, I cannot shower the same amount of congratulation that was bestowed on the Education Minister by some. He has been in charge of this department for the last five years, and we are where we were and no new progress has been made. Of course, the Education Minister can pat himself on his back in regard to the two Bills that he piloted through this House, viz., the Madras University Bill and the Andhra University Bill. If he thinks that he has done his duty by those two Bills, I leave the matter at that. With regard to the Madras University Bill, as a member of the Senate, I can say that at every turn we are finding that the Act is a very unsatisfactory one, because it is ill-drawn, and at every step there is a conflict between the Senate, the Syndicate, the Council of Affiliated Colleges and the Academic Council. The Syndicate does not know what its powers are, and when it comes to the Senate it is as much in the dark as to their own powers. That is one of the achievements of the hon. the Minister for Education. As regards the other, the Andhra University Act, he may pat himself on the back saying I have given the Andhra people a University for which they have been asking for the last fifty years. But what is the state of it now? The Minister talked at length of concentration which he gave up as soon as he found that his own followers were not for it, and the University is to have its seat at Bezwada. I think big buildings will rise up at Bezwada which will only be open at the time of the Convocation, and when the Convocation is over they will be shut up like so many ancient temples in this land, and will be the dwelling place for bats (laughter). Such is the achievement of the Education Minister with regard to university education.

"Now, with regard to secondary education, he says he has created the secondary education boards, and with that his responsibility ends. There is no attempt made to find out the best method of secondary education which would benefit the people of this province. But instead of doing it, he is marking time.

"Now, I turn to the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government. I must say, Sir, in his case that I should shower a bit of congratulation because he had given us the Religious Endowments Act, a measure of which any Minister can be proud (Hear, hear). I hope that this measure will 12-15 p.m.
bear the fruit which the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government expected. But with regard to local bodies I cannot congratulate him, for the simple reason I do feel that the power of nomination has been used

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merely to enthrone his party in power. I cannot get away from the fact that though nominations ought to be made, though the Local Boards Act when it was passed said distinctly that nominations were reserved in the hands of Government in order to equalize the chances of minority communities like the Mussalmans and the depressed classes, we often see that the power of nomination is used to put members of the party in councils. I shall give a few instances. In the case of South Arcot, there are a good number of persons of one community in the board and when vacancies occurred members of the same community have been nominated when there was a cry that the depressed classes should be represented (Hear hear). Still we are seeing the hon. Minister nominate only members of a particular community. I feel perhaps he is doing it unwittingly. I hope that the power of nomination will be only used as it is provided in the Act itself.

"I turn to my hon. Friend the Minister for Agriculture. He has not been in charge of his department for such a long time as the other two have been, but in spite of it, during the short time at his disposal he might have done a lot if he had applied his shoulder to the wheel ; but unfortunately, we are in the same position as under the bureaucrats, perhaps worse, because we are spending a good deal of money and getting nothing in return.

"With regard to the Revenue Member, I should like to bring to his notice two things. As a representative of the landholders in this Council I should like to point out that it involves great difficulty to us landowners in dealing with village officers. They are under the control of the Revenue officers of the place. And what happens is whenever they are asked to do collection work, they say that the tahsildar has come to such and such a place, or that the divisional officer has come to such and such a place and they must attend to him and so on. They are always dancing attendance about them, because those officers have it in their power to dismiss them or deal with them otherwise. We poor landholders can get no work out of them. I hope the hon. the Revenue Member will take this into his consideration, especially in times of scarcity like this, and will issue proper orders to the district officers, so that the village officers will really attend to collection work for which I suppose they are meant.

"I should like to point out one thing before I close. It was two years ago that I referred to the fact that we are inclined to bring in personalities in this Council. I must say that I was very sorry when I saw my hon. Friend the Member for Guntur mentioning a matter about my hon. Friend from Bellary. What did it lead to? It led to nowhere except the remarks from my friend from Bellary that he was sent for and asked whether he could be the president of the district board and on his saying he could not be was nominated as member."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"What I said was that it was Mr. Kesava Pillai that had brought him to me and recommended him for presidentship and that Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar himself asked for appointment as member and I agreed to appoint him as such."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"Any way, Sir, evidently, there is difference of opinion between the two members and I leave it to them. But my one concern is that we should, as far as possible, not refer to personalities in this

House. This is a well understood convention in all parliamentary institutions I do not care what happens to one individual member or another individual member. But we are fighting for parliamentary institutions; and we should try to approximate to the conventions that prevail in other parliamentary institutions."

Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—"Mr. President, Sir, I am not one of those who cast a despairing eye over the budget that has been presented by the hon. the Finance Member. I congratulate him on the care that he has taken in preparing the budget and on the manner in which he has presented it. I am sure, Sir, during the months that he has sat and carefully considered the preparation of the budget, very often he must have remembered the old times when he spent his school days at Sir William Fette's school near Edinburgh; very often he must have recollected his games the fives court and the attendance at school-house or at the Carrington house and the motto emblazoned there "Laboria". It seems to me that he has kept that in view in the preparation of the budget and that he has bestowed an amount of care and industry which does credit to the department of which he is in charge.

"Mr. President, more than one gentleman in this House has said that it is a deficit budget, and I see that newspapers outside, probably from a hasty and cursory glance of the budget have also fallen into the pit and called it a deficit budget. I do not consider it a deficit budget. If you go through the details of the budget, if you see what new schemes have been sanctioned and if you specially realise that expenditure on these new schemes is not of a recurring nature, I am sure you will come to the conclusion that the budget is not a deficit budget. The hon. the Finance Member has not done justice to himself, because he could have avoided all that ill-informed criticism if he had merely satisfied himself by presenting a balanced budget, and then when the contribution came from the Government of India given full latitude to the new schemes which he has now given in the original budget. As I said, it seems to me perfectly clear that this budget is not a deficit but a balancing budget. Having said that about the hon. the Finance Member, let me also pay my tribute to the work that has been done by the hon. the Finance Secretary and his department. Those of them who were in the Finance Committee assured me--I regret I was not in the Finance Committee myself--they assured me that the care that was bestowed by the Finance Department, by the Finance Secretary in particular, was something of which they could well be proud. Therefore it is with pleasure that I join in the well-merited encomium to the Finance Member and the department in his charge. I am certain the Finance Secretary watching the course of the debate during the last two days must have felt as that writer must have felt 'homo plantat hom irrigat sed deus dat increment.' The Finance Department prepares the budget, the Finance Secretary looks through it, but for the criticisms that may be levelled against it he has no responsibility. Members of the Council are in a position to say what they like, sometimes understandingly, sometimes--I shall not mention the alternative. The position of the Finance Department must have been very hard during the last two days and more, when they heard criticisms from member after member on subjects on which they, of the Finance Department, could not throw more light.

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"Having said that, let me turn to the departments themselves. On the Reserved side I do not wish to offer much criticism, not that criticism could not be offered, but I think there has been a conventional understanding among certain sections not to offer that criticism which could have been offered. (Voices of 'question' from the Opposition). The hon. Members' speeches are the best answer to the question raised. I have a few difficulties with regard to my own district. First as regards the Police, it was I think, the other day I was shocked to learn of a complaint from a corner of my district which showed me that sometimes the Police Department was so conducted that it lost sight of all humanities. In a corner of my district, called Sathiavedu, there is a tribe, which unfortunately comes under the Criminal Tribes Act. I have found to my regret—I have verified the statement later and therefore I say this with a full sense of responsibility—that these tribes having come under the Act are required to go to the Police station twice during the night, at 12 o'clock midnight and at 3 o'clock in the early morning to report themselves. And they have again to go to the police station at 9 o'clock in the morning to report themselves. Just fancy to yourself any civilized Government, bureaucratic or democratic, calling upon that tribe of people, however undesirable they may be, however much past guilt may be on their heads, calling upon them to go in the middle of the night leaving their houses, twice during the night to report themselves to the police station, and again at 9 o'clock in the morning. They could not practically do any work to earn their bread, because all the work will be allotted to others who come much earlier. I have been told that this is not an individual case in the Chingleput district. This practice obtains elsewhere also. I ask whether there can be anything of a more scandalous nature in connexion with the administration of the Police department. I have tried to verify this to the very best of my ability and what I heard seems to be correct.

"Then again, Sir, with reference to the Department of Irrigation, my hon. Friend, the Law Memebr, has been congratulated on the inauguration of the Mettur project. I do not wish to withhold congratulations where they are rightly due. Even before the Irrigation Bill was passed into law—that Bill which was rushed through the Council because on that depended the Mettur project—even before that, like a Deus ex machina, the Irrigation Member has been able to initiate the irrigation project, and somehow or other he has managed through his trips to Delhi to get the amount required before the Council was able to pass finally the Bill, and before the assent of the authorities was obtained. Therefore I congratulate him on this creditable feat of his. But it seems to me from a perusal of the Irrigation Budget that the hon. Member's whole mind and energy is engrossed by this single project, and other irrigation projects of a similar nature affecting other districts are completely lost sight of and completely left in the background. What has been done with reference to the several other districts which cannot possibly come under the Mettur project. About one crore of rupees is supposed to be taken up by the Mettur project. I do not want to say that it is not justified. It will help a great many people. But it seems to me that if only one great project is taken up and several other projects which can be as useful to the few people that are concerned by these projects are all neglected till Mettur project blossoms up into full maturity, it seems to me really hard and unfair

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to the members of other districts. In my own district there is practically no provision made for irrigation. We have a channel called the Kinnirettam channel over which there has been a great deal of agitation, there have been questions repeatedly put not only in the Reformed Legislative Council during the last six years, but also in the late Council, where my hon. Friend from Anantapur, the Deputy President, made himself responsible for agitation on this matter. I have myself repeatedly put questions about this channel. Government promised something. Their superintending engineers and executive engineers have written replies to the memorials that the channel scheme would be taken up as early as possible, and yet there is absolutely no indication of any consideration having been bestowed by the Irrigation department on that channel. And Uttiramerur is a place where irrigation facilities are badly needed and where some little relief in the direction suggested would be most welcome. I am perfectly certain that other hon. Members who do not live in the catchment area of the Mettur project will be equally hard hit by the attentions of the hon. the Irrigation Member being solely confined to the Mettur project. I wish to warn the Irrigation Member that though he has been doing a great deal of good by taking up such big schemes like the Hydro-electric scheme and the Mettur project, he still will do a great deal of harm if he does not bestow some little attention on other schemes. It seems to me that after all, schemes like the Mettur project are financed out of Loan funds, and according to the recent orders of the Secretary of State lesser schemes are to be financed from revenue accounts. Therefore, there is nothing essentially clashing between the two schemes unless it be that the department could not attend to more things than these and the hon. the Irrigation Member could not have attended to those things as well.

"As regards the Forest department, I must congratulate the hon. the Forest Member on the fact that since he has taken charge--I am able to acknowledge that publicly as a member of the Standing Forest Committee—he has been able to humanise the department more than it was ever done before, but I beg to point out that much more remains to be done. I see from the Memorandum on the Budget prepared by the Finance Secretary that the Forest division in Chingleput is proposed to be abolished. Yet there are forests which cannot be called forests by any stretch of the term as Enlish language is spoken and understood, which are treated as forests. They are mere scrub jungles. You and I cannot even hide ourselves in them and yet they are treated as forests and the people are subjected to all sorts of inconveniences.

"In the very same place (Satyavedu) to which I was referring, there is such a scrub jungle which causes people a lot of inconvenience. This is a kind of jungle in which the cattle cannot graze and into which man cannot go. These jungles are still under the administration of the Forest department. I consider that if only these things are brought to the notice of the hon. the Home Member, he will either have them disafforested or give them away to the forest panchayat for management. 12-30 p.m.

"In the course of the speeches of hon. Members opposite a great deal has been said about nominations by the Local Self-Government Department and I cordially agree with the plea raised by the hon. Member for the Landholders' constituency—I am glad that he has at last remembered that he

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represents the landholders—that personalities ought to be excluded as far as possible. Now, in these matters there must be an attempt at *quid pro quo*, give and take. That is the policy which appeals to me. I do not believe in the ethical and Christian policy, at least in politics of turning your right cheek when the left cheek is slapped. I believe in hitting back and giving blow for blow. I think that if hon. Members make wild statements and criticise unfairly, while bound by the limitations of Parliamentary etiquette, they are bound to receive what they give, perhaps with double force.

" One hon. Member gave an illustration of a nomination that would not be justified with reference to South Arcot. Without going into personalities I can mention at least seven gentlemen sitting on the Opposition benches who have been nominated by the hon. Minister for Local Self-Government."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" A word of personal explanation, Sir. I would not support the Minister for Local Self-Government as long as he nominates even Members on this side of the House, if such nominations did not come within the principles enunciated by the Act."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I merely pointed out that I could mention seven gentlemen on the Opposition side who have been nominated by the hon. Minister for Local Self-Government obviously according to the theory of my hon. Friend for purpose of strengthening the party."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I never said it. I said ' used in a manner that was not meant to be used by the Act'."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I do not want to pursue the matter. Hon. Members can see nothing good that comes out of our administration and out of whatever we do and whatever administration we are responsible for. Although I am not responsible for any part of the administration I use the expression ' we ' because we have all been made responsible, as the party in power, for our Ministerial acts and I acknowledge our share. Whatever we do, whatever legislation we pass and whatever administrative acts we are responsible for, hon. Members are out there to criticise. Why, Sir, the Hindu Religious Endowments Act in favour of which something has been said now was an Act that was criticised over and over again. No legislative measure of ours—the Andhra University Bill, the Madras University Bill, the Religious Endowments Bill--has been spared by hon. Members opposite. Hon. Members, if they had been in the wilderness, would have criticised the Ten Commandments as a piece of oppressive legislation. That is the frame of mind of hon. Members. We know that and we know that the election is coming on. They cannot afford to do any other thing in that frame of mind and we take their criticisms at that value which undoubtedly should be attached to criticisms that come from such important and such fair and such just sources.

" My hon. Friend spoke of the little that has been done in the Transferred departments. Just this morning I was comparing the budget introduced in the year 1921-22 and the budget that has been introduced this year. It is only those that cannot see, those that will not see and those that do not wish to see or hear that can fail to see the difference between the two budgets. There is enormous increase made in the progress of nation-building departments, great impetus has been given to education , innumerable primary schools have been opened, a large number of hospitals have sprung up and medical relief has been brought within the reach of many. You did not hear

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of Ayurvedic hospitals before. You did not have more than one medical college. You did not have medical schools more than two or three. You did not have so many dispensaries. You did not have such a grand scheme of medical relief and you did not have so many village roads as now. You did not have wells sunk as you have now All that is clean forgotton. My hon. Friends are always in a chronic state of discontent. I do not agree and I do not want to imitate them. I heard a story the other day or at least read it in one of Addison's papers—a great essay writer—he tells us that when in one of his perambulations he came across an old gentleman who was selling pills, he asked him what they were for, his reply was that they were pills to prevent earthquakes in Ireland I hope there is no Irish member here to quarrel with me. It seems to me, hon. Members are prescribing pills for the prevention of earthquakes although we are not having such disasters here. Our policy was, as I said in my budget speech in 1923 facing the general election, something attempted, something done. I shall say, when I face the elections again that our policy this time has been something more attempted and something better done."

Mr. Abbas Ali Khan Sahib :—" I rise also to congratulate the hon. the Finance Member for the able and lucid way in which he has presented the budget to us. It is an honest and businesslike budget which only a canny Scotchman like the Finance Member can produce. I must not forget to congratulate his able understudy who has given us an excellent memorandum which is also very ably drafted.

" Coming now to the various departments of Government, I will first of all come to the hon. the Law Member—the Leader of the House. Yesterday the hon Member for Guntūr levelled a charge that his schemes are wild and worth nothing. But I can say as an elected Member of this House that projects like Mettur, Sangameswaram and Tungabhadra are food and water to the men who work and till the soil in the burning sun and that they bring prosperity, contentment and joy to millions of human beings. I congratulate the hon. the Law Member for inaugurating that great scheme which is calculated to irrigate thousands of acres of barren lands and deserts of the four districts Salem, Coimbatore, Tanjore and Trichinopoly, and bring contentment to millions of poverty stricken people in those districts. It is due to his extraordinary industry that he was able to inaugurate this scheme. Whatever may be the verdict of this House there can be only one verdict which history can give and that is that he is a man who will be remembered by the people with gratitude and also with gratefulness. His memory will be cherished with the same affection and love as the memory of Col. Pennyquick who is the father of the Periyar scheme.

" Now, as regards the Police administration, Sir, I must say that the tone and the morale of especially the C.I.D. officials has improved enormously. The C.I.D officials do not do their duty in the old ostentatious and pompous way. Whatever they do, they do in as inoffensive and unobtrusive a way as possible. There has been a very satisfactory increase in the number of deputy superintendents of police from among the Muhammadan community. But in the cadre of inspectors and sub-inspectors that proportion has not been maintained. I hope the hon. the Law Member will see that this defect is remedied at a very early date.

"Now coming to the department of Civil Justice, I find that the increase in the stamp duties is throttling litigation. Litigation is a criterion of civilization (Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi: Hear, hear) and to make litigation costly is to deny the poor litigant easy and speedy justice in courts of law.

"Having said so much about the hon. the Law Member and the departments under his control, I proceed to congratulate the hon. the Revenue Member for passing the Village Officers Restoration Bill which has put an end to a good deal of excitement and discontent among the lower classes of Government servants. But I want to bring one fact to his notice. It is this: under the Standing Orders of the Government no lands under the Periyar area can be assigned to the people. Every such land should be auctioned. I have myself seen many poor families squatting upon such lands removing prickly pears and cultivating puduval having had to pay penal assessment also. When they have cultivated the land for two or three years the Tahsildar makes a report that the particular land is fit for auction On this, the Collector issues a notice and the land is auctioned. A sowcar from Madura goes and purchases the land and drives out the man who made it cultivable and actually cultivated it. This man becomes practically a serf under him with the result that we feel that there is absolutely no inducement for people to improve the lands. This should not be the policy of the Government. I request that the lands should be assigned to people who reclaim them.

"I want to mention another thing. It seems to me that deputy collectors and others were at one time under the control of the hon. the Revenue Member. Their promotion, etc., depended upon the Revenue Secretary and they were practically under the personal control of the hon. Member for Revenue. Now there seems to be a change and in consequence there is a good deal of grievance and heart-burning. This was brought to my notice by a number of people. I wish that something is done to these people and the *status quo ante* restored.

"Coming now to the hon. the Home Member I hope he has not forgotten that he was one of us last year and that he is going to be one among us four years hence. That is our attitude. I only beg of him to do this thing. In his department, I understand, Sir, probably I may be wrong, the bell chain system still continues. I hope he will see that this inhuman and cruel system is removed at a very early date. Although I am not a non-official jail visitor when I was in the Andamans it struck me that the Government have completely lost sight of the fact that what the prisoners want is moral and religious instruction. These alone would reclaim them. When I was staying with a friend of mine in Italy at Verone I was shown a provincial jail there and I was surprised to find a prelate from the Vatican taking a number of convicts through a course of religious instruction. This kind
12-45 p.m. of religious instruction improves the morale of the convicts. I pray and beg of him to make suitable provision for imparting religious instruction in jails according to the communities.

"Coming to the Transferred half I am still distressed to find that Agriculture and Co operation are kept separate. Mr. Raifeissen, the father of rural co-operation has said that to separate the two departments would be committing suicide. I pointed this out two years ago but nothing has been

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done till now; and therefore this amounts to committing suicide twice over. It is a strange anomaly that Agriculture and Co-operation should be separated. Then, Sir, I appeal to the hon the Minister for Development to take early steps to close such costly luxuries as the fish-curing yards and the jam factories. The Englishmen do not consider our preparations as sufficiently scientific. Moreover the Englishmen get cheaper goods direct from Australia or England. Indians do not generally use canned foods. When the Government department sell at 13 annas a tin, the Australian or English goods are sold at 6 annas a tin. I think it is better that all these departments are scrapped up. If the hon. Minister wants to start an industry, let him start a small cycle tyre industry. We have got all the raw materials such as rubber, sulphur, etc., and the Government may employ some experts from America or England and manufacture them on a small scale. Other people can easily copy this and it will be of use to them also. We need not go to jam factories and fish-curing yards.

"As regards education, I wanted myself to bring in a Tamil University Bill; but from the way in which confusion arose between the Madras University and the Andhra University I thought it better to wait till the next session. There is a general cry that after the Reforms Muhammadans have not been duly represented in the two departments administered by Sir Patro, namely, the Department of Education and the Department of Registration. The Muhammadan element has been falling off in both these departments and no attempt is being made to replace them by Muhammadans. This is a perpetual cry in our community and every time we are confronted with the electorate they ask us: 'Why are you supporting the Ministry; what are the Ministers doing for our community? They use you as a ladder and immediately they rise up they kick you down as unnecessary. When such is the case why do you support the Ministry?' All the same, the fact remains that there is an impression that Muhammadans are let down very badly.

"As regards the departments administered by the hon. the Raja of Panagal, I can say this much. Probably I will be the only Member of this House who will support his Bill containing a provision that the executive officers should be independent of the chairmen. I have had considerable experience of the municipality and I can say that the affairs are far from satisfactory. For instance, if a member belonging to the party of the chairman brings in a resolution his party supports it; if a member belonging to the other party brings in a resolution the chairman overrules it as being out of order, or he adopts some other means. For instance, recently in Madura the chairman took nearly 2½ hours to write a few sentences; he adopted this method because he knew full well that if the clock struck 8 all the members would go away. There is a good deal of corruption and party feeling and acrimonious discussion. All that leads nowhere. In almost all these municipalities, in the Madura municipality also, I know the proceedings are just like the proceedings of the Corporation of Madras. (Cries of 'Oh!') A good deal of time is wasted. For instance 25 thousand rupees of the public money is eaten away in a certain municipality; a packed committee is appointed to enquire into the matter; it exonerates some people and frames charges against the poor subordinates. There must be an independent official agency to inspect the accounts and go into the matter impartially and

report to the Government to take suitable steps. As regards the nominations to the local boards, I know there is a good deal of heart-burning and discontent all over the place. I can well realize the attitude of the Ministerialists. The Ministerialists, when they attend a marriage procession want to be the bridegroom; and when they attend a funeral want to be the corpse; I have no objection to let them be so."

* Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE :—" Mr. President, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak to-day on the budget for this year. Before proceeding to pass any remarks on the budget, I think it is my duty to thank the hon. the Finance Member and congratulate him for the financial statement which he has presented to us in this Council. The statement is remarkable for its grasp of principle and its mastery of details. Regarding the nature of the budget as presented to this House, I have no more to say than the previous speakers who are disappointed and dissatisfied with it. The hon. Member himself in presenting the budget expressed his disappointment that he was not able to place before the Council a more attractive picture of our financial position. Certainly it is not attractive as might have been expected; it is, on the other hand, a sombre picture of disproportionate dimensions. Anyhow I must thank the hon. Member for hoping for better prospects next year.

" Regarding the increased expenditure on various heads, I have different opinions; some are welcome while others are not. Expenditure on education, medical relief, sanitation, industry and agriculture are not matters of anxiety. They are welcome. People will not only not grudge such expenditure but regard it with satisfaction and gratitude, provided these allotments are reasonably and honestly utilized. But expenditure on Forest, Excise, Police etc., are much resented.

" Let me congratulate the hon. the Minister for Education for his ardent desire and determination to extend the primary education throughout the Presidency, in which, I think, he has succeeded to some extent. The additional expenditure on this head which amounts to ten lakhs of rupees is very much appreciated. From what has been so far done regarding the elementary education, we can infer that the Government have accepted in an explicit manner their responsibility for mass education. I hope that the red letter day when compulsory elementary education will be introduced throughout the Presidency is not far off. So far so good. But in this connexion, I cannot but draw the attention of the Government to the conditions of the poor elementary school teachers in whose hands the destiny of the younger generation rests. The scale of pay of teachers in elementary schools, especially under the local boards, is poor and not uniform. I speak from my knowledge of the state of affairs in the district of South Kanara and I believe these conditions may be similar in other districts also. Some taluk boards have no definite scale at all. They pay according to the nature of their demand and supply. Whereas in some taluks of the same district the teacher is given comparatively a higher initial pay and increments according to a definite scale; it may be said that all taluks have not the same financial resources and each taluk has to fix the salaries according to its resources. It is right from the standpoint of each taluk; but from the standpoint of a district which consists of different taluk boards, it does not look well. It is detrimental to the interests of the district as a whole regarding the progress

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of primary education. It will be better and more conducive to the efficiency of the teaching staff in all the taluk boards of a district if a uniform scale of pay is adopted and maintained. I therefore appeal to the hon. the Education Minister on behalf of the elementry school teachers who unfortunately get less than their brother teachers of equal merit and responsibilities, to take such steps as to bring about uniformity in their pay and other allowances. May I suggest that this can be done by handing over all elementary schools to the District Educational Council, more funds being provided for them and by making the taluk boards contribute from their education funds towards the maintenance of such schools?

"One more achievement of the hon. the Minister for Education is the inauguration of the Andhra University for the development of Andhra culture and literature. In the budget one lakh of rupees is set apart for the initial expenditure of the new University and it is all right for the Andhras But one thing that pains me most is the indifference and disregard shown to the feelings of the Kanarese people. There was, and there is, a strong opposition to the forcible inclusion of the six Kanarese speaking taluks of Bellary district within the jurisdiction of the Andhra University. Many attempts have been made to make the Government realize the difficulties of those Kanarese people by being cut off from their brethren in other parts of the Presidency. Agitation is still going on and before it reaches a higher stage, I hope the Minister for Education who has won much popularity by enlarging elementary education, by creating a new University, by promising to lead the province to total prohibition in the matter of drinking in the course of a few years, will not be unpopular among the Kanarese people by denying their just and reasonable demand. I think it is yet not too late for him to earn the lasting gratitude of the Kanarese people by kindly excluding those Kanarese portions of Bellary from the operation of the Andhra University Act

"Now, regarding the Excise policy, I have nothing to say except that the Government would give due regard to the decision of this House in the last Council and will adhere to a policy that will lead to total prohibition within a reasonable period, say, 10 or 15 years.

"Regarding the allotment made for medical relief and public health and allotment for the maintenance of roads and bridges, I may say that they are very much appreciable. One thing I regret to say is that out of five lakhs of rupees, only a sum of Rs. 34,000 is set apart for expanding the scheme of medical relief in rural parts. Surely this sum cannot bring medical relief to the doors of the people as it is intended by the Government. It may at times stop half way, for I know several times some of these dispensaries run short of drugs on account of small allotments made to them. Ayurvedic dispensaries will be more popular and economical.

"The local boards in the district of South Kanara proposed to open a few Ayurvedic dispensaries, and for the matter of that one or two dispensaries were opened and they for some time flourished and were well attended too Later, they were closed for want of funds. Sir, I beg to submit that the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government whom I congratulate on his earnest desire to develop our national Ayurvedic system of medicine by opening these institutions, which are the real monuments of his patriotism, might be

pleased to provide larger funds to the local bodies. May I also suggest that some definite provision be made in the new scheme for aid to rural dispensaries for the maintenance of a qualified midwife also, a want much felt by the people of the rural parts. One other grievance is about the improvement of the malarial parts of South Kanara. Nothing is provided for it specially. I request the hon. the Minister to provide funds to Health Officers to adopt such measures as are necessary to drive this malaria from the interior.

" Turning now to grants to local bodies for the maintenance of roads and bridges the grand total for 1926-27 is found to be Rs. 39,10,000. This amount for the whole Presidency seems to be hardly sufficient. In making allotments, however, the attention of the hon. the Chief Minister is drawn to consider specially the case of poor local boards. In this connexion, I cannot but make a few remarks on the condition of the roads of South Kanara, and I think that I may not be much in the wrong if I include other districts also. The roads are badly maintained and in spite of the new taxes of various kinds the local bodies have imposed on the poor tax ridden rate-payers, the general complaint is the want of funds when the question of improving the roads and bridges comes in. This matter has been sufficiently brought to the notice of the Government in a number of questions put from time to time, on this subject in this Council and yet the conditions do not seem to have improved. It is urged, therefore, that the Government do take steps to induce the local boards to maintain the roads in proper condition.'

" Now with reference to the allotment for re-survey and settlement it is an unnecessary expenditure. As a landowner, I feel the heavy impending burden. Though this subject is reserved, as a matter of duty to my electorate and to myself I take this opportunity to ventilate the grievances and hardships of the landholders and poor ryots particularly of South Kanara. The recent floods washed clean several parts of the district rendering many poor ryots and merchants hopeless and helpless. Almost all the cultivating fields lying close to rivers and streams have been buried under sand rendering cultivation impossible. Coconut pest had already done much havoc in many coconut plantations and recently the paddy crop pest caused considerable loss to ryots. On these matters the official reports may be hopeful but in fact the prospects are anything but satisfactory. The paddy crop of this year is very discouraging and when everything is gloomy re-survey work has been commenced. In view of all these grievances the Government will be pleased, I hope, to appoint a committee consisting of official and non-official members to inquire into the grievances of the ryots and landholders before resettlement is commenced.

" I thank the hon. the Home Member for his liberal policy in his forest administration and I hope he will carefully consider the suggestion of hon. Members of this House to entrust to the village panchayats the forest administration. My grievances about forest are these : the boundary line of the reserved forests runs too close to the arable lands in our district; consequently the wild animals of these forests descend into the fields and cause considerable loss to the ryots year after year. I am afraid if the boundary line is not removed to a distance of at least one mile from the very verge of the cultivating lands, they will have to be left uncultivated. There are already many cultivating fields

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lying fallow chiefly due to the trouble of the wild beasts. The paddy-crop pest is another product of these thickly grown forests near the cultivating fields.

" Another regrettable thing to which the attention of the hon. Home Member is drawn is the prevention by the Forest authorities of removing firewood and green leaves from the reserved forests by poor ryots, and lastly the enhanced grazing fee demanded for cattle by the authorities concerned. So I appeal to the hon. the Home Member to take early steps to redress the grievances just narrated by me.

" Sir, now, I thank and congratulate the hon. the Law Member for the many great things he has achieved during his official years. It is true that several lakhs of rupees are proposed to be spent on irrigation works such as Mettur project, etc. ; the expenditure does not make us feel much.

" Now turning to the retrenchment policy adopted by the Government with reference to the Police department. I say a few words. The Government are going to abolish police stations in various districts. In our district of South Kanara, I learn that four or five police stations are going to be abolished. I say, Sir, the Government are not taking the right step in this matter. Because nowadays when the political agitation is raging in one form or the other, when there is an air of obstinacy and disregard towards law and authority, now when people are more ready to go against law and order than before, I think it is not proper to reduce the strength of the police force in the country. To the interest of both the Government and country, it must be left untouched. Of the four police stations proposed to be dis-established in South Kanara district, I say it is not good. Because almost all of them are situated in the remotest parts of the district, the police station at Charmadi is situated on the very boundary of Mysore state in the most interior part of the district. If these stations are removed, then it is very hard for people of rural parts to live safely in these hard times. Therefore I appeal to the hon. Law Member to reconsider the matter and drop the idea of abolishing them, particularly those police stations which are in the remotest corners of the district.

" Sir, I once again thank the hon. Financial Member for his sincerity and open-mindedness and courage with which he placed his Financial Statement before this House in which he has made us hope for better prospects in the coming year."

* Mr. K. Koti Reddi :—" Sir, there are two matters on which I am as usual very keen. The first is about the large sums of money that are as usual spent upon the contruction of the Government buildings and secondly the way in which the rural population of the Presidency has been treated by the Government in both the Reserved and the Transferred halves. It is all right for us to construct big and palatial buildings for officers to live in if we can afford to do that. But the series of deficit budgets that we have been having for some years clearly show that we must put off construction of such big buildings in favour of more urgent needs of the Presidency. Sir, lakhs and lakhs of money are being spent on buildings which can as well afford to wait for some time. I can give you one instance. Last year, I had no opportunity of contesting the necessity of building a separate block for the Small Cause Court in Madras. I believe, Sir, that the Government ought to take into account, when they are constructing such buildings, 1 p.m.

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the fact that the time will soon come—I do not think it is far off—when the province will have to be separated. If we are to have a Telugu Province, a Tamil Province, a Kerala Province for which we are all agitating, there would be no need to have a big High Court in Madras. The Andhra Province will not be satisfied with a High Court located at Madras. Probably they will have a High Court in the Andhra Province and another in the Tamil Province. The day will not be far off. It will be within 10 or 15 years. When such is the case, where is the necessity for building a separate block for the Small Cause Court? Suppose we have a High Court for the Andhra Province. Five or six Judges would be enough for Madras. We have waited for a large number of years without a separate block. Can we not wait for ten years more? This is an instance where the Government can put off the construction of a separate block for the Small Cause Court particularly in view of the fact that there is a big agitation in the Tamil and Telugu countries for having their own provinces with the result that they would have their own High Courts.

"Secondly, I wish to say that I am not against the Government spending money on building residential quarters for officers. There are certain places where residential quarters are necessary. It is better that the Government build quarters for officers. But my complaint is this: so far as the budget is concerned, I wish to point out that no separate accounts are kept for residential quarters and for offices, so that we are not in a position to know what exactly is the amount that is being spent for maintenance of residential quarters. So far as the residential quarters are concerned, the Government should see that these buildings pay their own way though the Government need not actually make a profit out of them. Are the accounts kept separately to see whether this is true or not? I do not want that the Government should be put to loss on account of residential buildings. Ten per cent of the pay of officers is deducted for occupying Government buildings. No doubt we are paying high salaries for most of the officials. My complaint is not about that point. I believe the time will come when this Presidency cannot afford to pay the amount of salaries they are paid now. We will have to reduce the salaries. What will be the result? Even supposing that the Government is making enough money by way of rentals calculating on the present basis of the salaries, if we reduce the salaries the result will be that the Government will be put to a loss. The Government should always have that fact in mind. If the Government shows at least that it is not incurring any loss for the construction and maintenance of residential buildings I will be satisfied. I think it is not so. Take an instance. A sum of Rs. 70,000 has been spent on a residential building for the District Judge in Cuddapah. Generally, the Government buildings are very costly. If a private person undertakes such works, they will not cost him so highly. People would pay only a sum of Rs. 30,000 for the building at Cuddapah I referred to. That is how the Government money is being spent. Again, provision has been made for a Court-house in Kurnool and one in Anantapur. Whereas a sum of nearly two lakhs of rupees has been provided for the construction of a court-house at Anantapur, a sum of three lakhs of rupees is provided for that at Kurnool. There is a difference of one lakh of rupees between the amounts provided for the construction of the court-houses at Kurnool and at Anantapur. I do not understand this difference. The same is the case with regard to the residential quarters also.

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" The second point which I wish to refer to is that I in this House have been complaining time after time that the money we are spending for the rural classes is not sufficient. What is the amount of taxes they pay and what is the return they are getting? They do not get what is their due. I wish to know how far this Government is benefitting the rural population from whom they get the main portion of the taxes. Take the Medical Department. It is no doubt being said that we have so many dispensaries and hospitals. It is true that we have a large number of hospitals. Most of the amount goes for the equipment and improvement of the hospitals which are situated in big centres. This year also a great portion of the money is going to be spent on headquarter hospitals. How far are the villagers benefitted by the headquarter hospitals? If statistics is taken of the number of people who resort to these hospitals from the villages it will be found that it is comparatively small. The hospital authorities are not generally sympathetic towards the villagers resorting to these hospitals. Somehow or other, the complaint seems to be—I do not want to be bitter—that the hospital authorities rarely sympathise with the villagers because the habits of these villagers are different from those of the people in the towns. The inherent nature of the town people is they do not ordinarily sympathise with the villagers with the result that the latter are not favourably treated. I will give one instance."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"If the hon. Member is going into such things seriatim he will take more of the time available to other hon. Members. The hon. Member can deal with the matter in a comprehensive way."

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—" I will give an instance. A man in a village was suffering from an acute disease in the eye and he was about to commit suicide. I took him personally from his village to the Ophthalmic Hospital in Madras two years ago. He was there for two or three months. He was cured and went home. Some time after that, he had a similar complaint. I said I could not spare time, but under the full belief that he would be treated fairly in the hospital I sent him here. He was told 'You have come to eat here'. That is the way in which that man was treated in the Ophthalmic Hospital. He went away to Bangalore. That is the way how villagers are treated.

" Coming to Public Health, I must say that, with all the energy of the hon. the Minister, very little is proposed to be spent on public health. No doubt a number of officers have been appointed. But what can these officers do without the money required? As a matter of fact there is no provision this year for rural water-supply. Last year there was a provision of 6 lakhs of rupees for this purpose. I do not know how much of this provision was spent and how much was unspent. No separate provision has been made this year for the improvement of rural communications.

" Only a very small amount is being spent for the extension of primary education. With regard to secondary education, the complaint from the rural population is that, though there are high schools in towns, they do not benefit the rural population. They want middle schools in rural areas. I know that people of the villages go to towns. But they command no convenience in the towns and they are really spoiled. Unless the Government

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is prepared to spend a lot of money on hostels where rural people can reside, there is no use of voting any money for high schools and colleges. I would vote down such amount.

"What I wish to bring to the notice of the hon. the Revenue Member is this: No doubt a sum of 4 lakhs of rupees is provided in the budget for minor irrigation. But that is absolutely insufficient. I will give an instance of the way in which this department of minor irrigation is working. The owners of a tank are being called upon to contribute a sum of Rs. 212 out of the sum of Rs. 280 required."

* Mr. P. N. MARTHANDAM PILLAI :—" Sir, I will begin by congratulating the hon. the Finance Member for the budget he has presented, because I believe congratulations are due to him because of the labour he has bestowed upon the budget. I was sorry to see very few people congratulate him We must congratulate him just as you congratulate a student on passing through an examination or a newly married couple. It is a formality and I do not see why we should deny him that. After all what is his part in the work? The administration is a huge machine in which the hon. the Finance Member is a wheel or possibly a tooth; it may be a sharp tooth or a flat tooth. His ability to impress upon the administration of finance however strenuous he may be is very limited and therefore I would be the last person to accuse the hon. the Finance Member or the Members of the Finance Committee for any defect in the budget or for any advantage in the budget. I want to present to this House a far different story than that presented by the other hon. Members. The hon. the Finance Member is the President of the Finance Committee I was in the Finance Committee. I sympathise with him. Item after item is presented to the Finance Committee. It is difficult for us to come to one conclusion or the other. So far as I am able to see, the whole expenditure is spent on two items either for the salary of the permanent officials or in providing buildings for Government officers and offices. On both these items the whole lot of our income that we derive is spent. You must put a stop to these two items; you must reduce the pay of all officials under Government. India is a poor country. We cannot afford to pay them salaries on the scale of competition held in the European countries. We cannot pay any officer on the foreign competitive basis. We have instances of men with a large income giving up that income and taking up Government appointment here; they do so not merely for the money but for the influence which the appointment carries with it, or from a sense of public duty put it in whichever way you like. The fact is that men of the greatest ability are available to take up the administrative work not necessarily for the pay they will get. I do not want that a large amount of money should be spent on buildings or officials.

"As my hon. Friend from Tinnevelly, Mr. Subramania Pillai, mentioned, money should be spent on irrigation and agriculture. The average villager is not benefited by your large schemes like the Mettur project. I take it they have their own advantage. But I want to present to the hon. the Law Member the fact that in Travancore they have what is known as the Pachipari anicut. Speculations were rife and when the whole scheme was completed it was found that water convenience was not the only convenience which was required. They felt the want of agriculturists. It was difficult

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to supply the villagers and agriculturists with manure. Unless you put the reform of agriculture and irrigation on a scientific basis and automatically improve the existing sources of irrigation, the villagers will not be benefited to the extent to which they ought to be benefited. 1-15 p.m.

"I do not condemn any projects which are intended to be put in execution by the hon. the Law Member, such as the Mettur project and others, but I do want to urge upon his attention that if he should benefit the agricultural population—I mean the villagers—the only way in which he can do it is by putting the system of irrigation on a scientific basis, viz., that if a village tank contributes Rs. 1,000 per year, he must spend Rs. 200 or Rs. 300 on that tank so that the benefit which may be derived from it may go to the villagers who have been paying the money from time immemorial and as a result of which the coffers of the Government are filled. The Mettur project and other projects may benefit the Presidency as a whole. They do not benefit a ryot who has settled in the Tambraparni valley. I would therefore urge on the attention of the hon. the Law Member to take up the whole question of the reform of irrigation system in the Presidency by putting it on a scientific basis, i.e., by spending a portion of the revenue derived from irrigation sources for the repair thereof. Well, they may say that they have no money. I ask, have not the Government found money for expenditure in other directions for the Malabar rebellion or the Fituri? Therefore, want of finance is a defence which we cannot accept. If you are to look to the national prosperity and the betterment of the villagers, you must see that people who pay taxes are benefited.

"One word more and I shall conclude. So far as the question of establishment of a Tamil University is concerned, there is a crying need in the whole Tamil country for the establishment of such a University. If the hon. Member from Madura says 'no', I leave it to him to say whether he is justified in assuming that attitude. The other day the hon. the Minister for Education very cleverly replied to the Trichinopoly Conference that a sum of Rs. 10 lakhs would have to be collected and if that is done then there would be no difficulty in establishing a Tamil University. Sir, this reminds me of a certain story: A goldsmith who was asked to make a jewel when asked whether he had finished making the jewel replied 'no'. The next time when he was asked he replied the same thing. The third time when he was asked he easily found a remedy and replied thus:—'Well, you had better find the gold and I will make the jewel.' The next time when the goldsmith was asked about the jewel, he replied 'have you purchased the gold which is necessary for making the jewel?.' The owner of the jewel became disgusted asking the goldsmith about it and kept quiet and the goldsmith thus escaped from the difficulty. Such is the way in which the hon. the Minister for Education has solved this question. He thinks it would be impossible to find the ten lakhs of rupees necessary for the establishment of a Tamil University and therefore thinks that the question can be shelved for the present. I want the hon. the Minister for Education to take a more serious view of the whole question and see whether he cannot give us a Tamil University."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU:—"It has been stated that the general discussion on the budget gives room to every one of the Members of this House to speak at any length and on whatever subject it

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might be: I do not like to talk in hackneyed phrases in which references have been made against Members of Government. For the last five and a half years we have been listening to speeches of this sort—some of which yet very good—in which references have been made to the grievances of the people and it matters very little if such occasions are taken advantage of to draw forth an arrow on this Member of the Government or on that. Possibly the phalanx of the Government is strong enough to receive as many arrows and more as are in the armoury of the Opposition Members. To my mind it occurs that the discussion did not crystallize into any definite form, not because I deprecate the speeches that have been made, but because it seems to me that a general discussion of this sort is a relic of the old system when the Legislative Council had no powers of expressing their grievances and when they had no power of voting on the various items such as we have to-day. This is merely a suggestion and I only request the Government to look into this question and see whether it would not be desirable if these three days which are allotted for the general discussion of the budget might not altogether be given over and the other time which is allotted for the voting of grants may also be utilized for this purpose. At any rate, a discussion on these three days might be restricted to the main principles of the budget and the financial conditions generally, so that a detailed discussion of the various items might be relegated to those days when we come to vote upon them. This is merely a suggestion (Voices: 'for the next year').

"Sir, coming to the subject itself, for my own part, I do not wish to get away from this House without joining the various other Members of this House in their congratulations which, I may say, they have so respectfully paid to the hon. the Finance Member. Apprehensions are no doubt entertained that this is a deficit budget and explanations have been given. For my part, I do not dread a deficit budget as much as I dread a surplus budget, and when it is remembered that this deficit is entirely due to money spent on projects which would never have been begun, I am not at all able to see why there should be so much apprehension about the deficit. Let it also be remembered that 70 or 80 items go to the transferred subjects as non-recurring grants. I really do not see why any one should entertain any apprehensions on this budget.

"Having said so much, my next submission is that I have no grievance against any one Member of the Government from the lowest of the cadre to the topmost. If I had any grievances, I could have expressed them on other occasions. At any rate, it is not right for us to take this opportunity for piling up grievances after grievances against Government Members.

"There is, however, one other observation which I wish to make and which I hope will be received in the spirit in which it is made I make it not because I am dissatisfied with this Member or that Member or the Government as a whole, not because the country has any great grievances against the Ministers or against the Councillors, but because if a suggestion can be thrown out it might be thrown out and it might be received by the Government and considered if it deserves any consideration. It is this: I have always believed, and many Members will agree with me there, that the functions of a Government in this advanced state of civilization are not confined merely to govern. There is a conception no doubt that Government's function is merely to govern, to carry on the administration, to

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preserve order and peace, to see that no disurbance takes place, to see that no injustice is done to any one, and, in their own way, to improve the benefits given to the people. One thing which I wish to place before the Government is whether they have got anything like a well-thought-out and considered programme of work for a number of years beginning from now, or from before so far, to be completed within the next five years or a decade. Viewed from this standpoint, one is doubtful whether the Government have any schemes of improvement, to use an economic phrase, of national wealth; for upon national wealth depends the happiness of the subjects. The second point that I wish to raise is whether they have raised the standard of living. Various opportunities are available in this land—let it be remembered that I am not saying that they are not doing anything at all in this direction and that it is one thing to talk of a particular thing and that it is another thing to carry it out—and I only ask whether they have any definite programme for a number of years, no matter whether these schemes are to be started out of your own money or from monies borrowed. I want to know whether they have got a scheme which may serve for a period of years so that even if the present Ministers or the Executive Councillors do not continue in their offices, those persons who take their places may carry on those schemes. It is in that light I make this criticism, and not that I expect any immediate answer from the Government as to whether it is possible to do this or that. Let them make a survey into these things and give us some definite and well-thought-out schemes for a number of years.

" The other thing is to raise the standard of living of the people. In order to achieve that purpose, the average daily wages of Indians must be raised.

" Well, Sir, these are the two aspects that I wish to place before this House and when I do so I should not be understood to have made these suggestions presuming things which I do not understand. I have got every admiration for every member of the Government. I am aware of their limitations. In these circumstances, I hope that both the Government and this House will understand the spirit in which I have offered these suggestions.

" Speaking of another item, I would say only one or two sentences and shall finish. It is well known that in this province one-fifth of the land is yet to be brought under cultivation. Government have recognized this and issued instructions to their officers in the districts. I believe a Government Order was issued in 1919 and another in 1921-22 on this matter. I wish to know whether some measures have been taken to improve agriculture in this province. Somehow or other the chastening influence of war is waning and probably we have settled down to normal conditions and things are not so pressing as they were five years ago with the result that if we want to achieve any real improvement in our lands it would be more desirable to spend on that department for the benefit of our people.

" Sir, I am aware that all these things cannot be done in a day. It means more money. Bat what I do say is that a more vigorous policy and more definite programme is essential in order to enable us to do something more defiuite for the benefit of our land."

* Rao Bahadur C. V. S. Narasimha Raju :—" Mr. President, my hon. Friend, Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu, after six years' experience of this Council, said that these three days of general debate might be reduced to a zero.

I think he has stated it after a considerable amount of experience and I hope he will accept an amendment of mine, viz., that all the forty-five days during which our Council sits may be safely omitted."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU:—"I am told that the expediency of following such a course is being considered in some other quarters. I do not know that the hon. the Leader of the Opposition has converted himself to that creed."

* Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU:—"The hon. Member will wait and see. The other words of wisdom he has uttered after three years of experience as Minister of this Council are that the Government should have a definite programme for the nation-building departments. If I remember right, he was in charge of the real nation-building departments, namely, Agriculture and Co-operation and I took it as a mere confession on his part when he said that nothing was done as a Minister in the nation-building departments."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU:—"As a matter of personal explanation, Sir, if the hon. the Leader of the Opposition is ever entrusted with the administration of those departments, he will find enough of materials to show that his inference is wrong."

* Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU:—"I may say that the Leader of the Opposition is far off under the present circumstances from such a prospect. Various speeches have been made by Members of this House belonging to various communities. The member belonging to the Indian Christian Community says that a member belonging to his own community should occupy a seat on the Treasury Bench; and a member belonging to another community says that a member belonging to his community should occupy a seat on the Treasury Bench. It comes to this: they want that the Treasury Bench should be an anthropological museum of various races and creeds. I do not look to the Treasury Bench in that light To me it looks like a solar system and the Finance Member is really the Sun. The other six members do correspond to the planets. I do not call them satelites (laughter). Of course, in any Parliamentary system of Government the
1-30 p.m. Chancellor of the Exchequer is the real central force. Whatever may be the form of Government, we may take it that the Finance Member will be the real sun. And the orbits in which the planets move, the velocity with which they move, and the manner in which they themselves rotate on their axis depend on their mass. It is an elementary principle of dynamics. If the three Ministers and the Members of this House do not have sufficient mass, I do not know where the blame is to be cast. Is it on account of any want of following or is it on account of the Government of India Act that makes them move in this unsatisfactory manner? When some of the planets move very near the sun, their real motion does appear to us who are looking from the opposite benches as retrograde. I do not want to pursue the analogy any further and I will be satisfied with mentioning one point that in this solar system there are the *Rahus* and the *Kethus*, the *Chchayagrahams*, the Ministers without their portfolios. Yesterday, my hon. Friend, Mr. Ethirajulu Nayudu, said that some Members of the Opposition were sticking to the coat tails of Brahman Members. I may return the compliment by saying that Ministers without portfolios have a higher status and even they are not able to effect any change for good in the administration of this province.

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"I may now go on to examine some of the black spots in the sun, namely, the Finance Member. If we take the revenue receipts and expenditure, we find that except for one year, every year has closed with a deficit budget. In 1921-22 there was a deficit of 108·22 lakhs. I do not however hold the Ministers responsible for the deficit because it was the year when they came for the first time into the office and they did plainly say on that occasion that they were just carrying on the administration. But in 1922-23, on their responsibility taxation was raised by 50 per cent under Stamps and Registration; and in spite of that, the year closed with a deficit of 17·27 lakhs. The next year, 1923-24, there was again a deficit of 9·38 lakhs while in the year 1924-25 the deficit was 29·47 lakhs. In the current year there will be a plus balance, but the credit being mostly due to the Transferred departments because they had allowed certain amounts to lapse. Of the total amount lapsed, 3·51 lakhs, was under education and a lakh and a half was under Industries. The present surplus therefore is caused by the Transferred Half. For the year 1926-27, something like 76 lakhs is to be the deficit. But on account of the remission granted by the Government of India, the deficit will be about 19·46 lakhs. Even this is a very unsatisfactory state of affairs. Sir, if we take into consideration the growth of revenue and the growth of expenditure we will see how bad our financial position is. I take the year 1922-23 as the standard for considering the revenues and the expenditure. The revenue in that year was 16,06·22 lakhs and the budgeted revenue for 1926-27 is 16,34·20 lakhs This gives an increase of nearly 28 lakhs in our revenue. In the course of five years the revenue has expanded only by 28 lakhs in round figures And we feel bound to remark that that is a rather tardy growth. But what has been the growth in the expenditure? It is something like 213 lakhs. The budgeted expenditure for 1926-27 is 17,10·66 lakhs while that for 1922-23 was 16,23·49 lakhs. That gives a balance of 87·17 lakhs. To this we have to add the remission by way of provincial contribution to the Imperial revenues which was 126 lakhs last year. The real growth of expenditure therefore comes to 213 lakhs. Comparing the increase in receipts and the growth of expenditure, it will be seen that the one bears no comparison with the other. The expenditure has increased tenfold as compared with the growth of receipts. Is it a satisfactory state of things?

"Sir, in this connexion, let me examine what the growth of expenditure in the Transferred Half has been during these five years. About 70 lakhs of rupees is to be spent in the next year for new schemes. What is the proportion between the Transferred and Reserved Half of the Government in this respect? According to the analysis given by the Finance-Member in his report, it will be found that only 14·59 lakhs is to be spent on Education, 14·96 on Medical, 2·33 on Public Health, 1·78 on Agriculture, 1·96 on Industries and 7·72 on Grants to local bodies, making up a total of 33 lakhs and odd. The Reserved departments on the other hand under Irrigation, Forests, Police, Miscellaneous departments, Printing and Civil Buildings are given 36 lakhs."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"On a point of personal explanation, Sir. I may point out that Civil Works are not works which are confined to the Reserved Half."

* Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—"Sir, I know that the whole of Civil Works does not come under the Reserved Half, but the Finance Member has not told us how much of this allotment is for the Transferred departments. I know that the whole of it is not for the Transferred Half. It may be that the amount may be divided equally between the two halves. It has been frequently said that whatever comes by way of remission of provincial contribution, the whole of it, or at least a major portion of it, will be utilized for the Transferred departments. Has the Government kept that promise? Far from it, the Finance Member suggested that no protest should be raised either in this House or in the Assembly as to the utilization of this remission."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"I fear the hon. Member has mistaken me, Sir. What I did press was that no support should be given either in this House or in the Assembly to any proposal to divert this remission into other channels lest it should be taken away from us and bestowed upon other provinces."

* Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—"I am glad for the correction, Sir. I understood him to say that we should not suggest any alterations in the allocation of this amount. But the way in which the surplus revenues are proposed to be utilized is most unsatisfactory. As I have already remarked, it is perhaps due to the defective mass in the Ministers in effecting a complete diversion of this amount for nation-building purposes. In this connexion, I want to compare the growth of expenditure in the Reserved and the Transferred departments during the past five years. It looks very miserable if we take it into consideration. In 1922-23 the expenditure under Education was 154·44 lakhs, while in 1926-27 it is put at 189·93 lakhs. Similarly under Medical 56·36 lakhs and 60·76 respectively, while in Public Health 10·15 and 39·20, Agriculture 26·94 and 31·19, Industries 17·18 and 18·78. This gives us a total increase of 73 lakhs in all the departments in the Transferred Half. And the growth of expenditure on the whole has already been shown to be 213 lakhs. After all the growth of expenditure under the Transferred departments is only roughly about one-third of the total growth of expenditure. Most of this increase is by way of enhanced salaries to officers in the Transferred departments. Is this a satisfactory state of things and should it be allowed to continue? It looks clear to my mind that the departments have existed more for absorbing salaries than for any useful purpose.

"Sir, the hon. the Finance Member while introducing his budget said that there was some silver lining to the financial position of this Province in the hope of a remission in the provincial contribution. Already out of 348 lakhs that are to be remitted, a sum of 183 lakhs have been remitted to us. And the Finance Member has budgeted for an expenditure of about 19 lakhs more. Even taking that some amount is remitted next year, it will be found that only 145 lakhs will be remitted for future utilization. The Finance Member has dealt with the danger underlying the time-scale and the growth of expenditure year after year. He said that the growth of expenditure on this account would be from 9 to 10 lakhs every year. And he has not calculated when this growth of expenditure would stop; it may be thirty or twenty-five years when the maximum would be reached and it will not effect any fluctuation in our budgeting for the several departments,

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The time-scale was introduced with effect from 1921 or 1922, and some scales in 1923. These scales have been introduced during the course of two or three years, and we have yet to wait twenty years at least before the maximum rates are reached. Of course, we laymen cannot exactly say when the maximum will be reached, and it is up to the Finance Secretary or the Finance Member to mention to us what will be the maximum limit we are to reach, and how far we are committed by these time-scales, and how far we can afford to pay them. It is easy to say what it will be next year or in the year to come. My request to him is that he should take sufficient pains and settle and state before the House the extent to which we have to provide in years to come under this head. The growing revenues of the province are not at all sufficient and the question whether our financial position is satisfactory or not requires a further careful examination. 1-45 p.m.

"I wish to draw the attention of this House to the fact that the way in which expenditure is incurred and proposed to be incurred under the Mettur project is most unsatisfactory. A perusal of the report that was laid on the table shows that the higher authorities were assured that the financial returns would be satisfactory. On what basis the financial returns are satisfactory depends upon the levy of Rs. 15 an acre on dry lands to be cultivated and Rs. 1-8-0 or Rs. 2 on existing wet lands. Both these are leviable only when the Irrigation Bill becomes law. I see my hon. Friend opposite nods dissent, and so I may be permitted to explain what I mean. Under the existing Tanjore irrigation, not a single pie can be levied by the Government on inam lands unless the new Bill becomes law. I can safely assert to that effect, because it is only in that Bill that a provision exists that the improvement of the existing sources of irrigation gives the right to Government to levy cess on existing wet lands. Regarding the levy of high rates of Rs. 15, Government have not got the right under the existing law. There is a chapter in the new Irrigation Bill, chapter 6 or 7, which enables the Government to refer the whole matter as a sort of referendum to the people that are to be benefited, and if the majority of the people that are to be benefited by the project consent to the levy of Rs. 15 rate, then only it becomes leviable, and when that is the state of things, before it becomes law, and when it has not at all taken a practical shape or before the referendum is yet to be made to the people, I ask the Finance Member whether he is justified in allowing the expenditure under this head." (At this stage the gong was sounded and the speaker resumed his seat).

*Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI :—" Sir, I rise to make just a few observations. I am glad, and, I think, it is a matter for congratulation that Mr. Moir is in the Government and that he is the Finance Member. I have read of Mr. Moir's work in the Cuddapah district as a Settlement Officer, assisted by Mr. Davies. The people of Cuddapah are grateful to him even to-day, for they say that his settlements were just and equitable. He has much knowledge of the people, and we may expect him to be sympathetic in dealing with questions that may crop up now and then about the increase of settlement rates in other districts. He knows that Anantapur is a famine-stricken district. The Government would increase the wet assessment by 12½ per cent as my hon. Friend Mr. Rameswara Rao has pointed out, and in consideration of the famine-stricken condition of the people and of the poor yield I trust and hope that the hon. the Revenue Member will see that no increase is made.

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"There is another point I would mention. I have known Mr. Moir as Private Secretary to Lord Pentland, at any rate to me, of beloved memory. And I have known his views also on politics with which many of us differed at the time, and I believe, Mr. Moir may remember that we were all up in arms against the Government at the time, I mean many of the leaders of Madras, Brahman as well as non-Brahman leaders, participated in the protest meeting; and I had the honour of presiding over it. Distinguished public men like the Rt. hon. Srinivasa Sastri, Kasturiranga Ayyangar, Dr. Subramania Ayyar, Diwan V. P. Madhava Rao, N. Subba Rao, B. N. Sarma and my hon. friend Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar participated in the meeting. That was an extraordinary meeting of indignant protest against the action of Government in interning Mrs. Besant and her two friends Messrs. Arundale and Wadia for carrying on a raging and intense agitation for Home Rule. The Public of this Presidency were much excited. But our strong protests did not affect or alter my relationship with Lord Pentland or Mr. Moir. The Government were whipping us then with cat-o-nine-tails but now they are whipping us with scorpions ('Hear, hear'). I have no time to enter into the details of the present situation and I do hope that things would soon improve.

"One other subject I would touch upon, that is labour. My hon. Friend Muhammad Usman Sahib is in charge; and I am sure he will pay very sympathetic and vigilant attention to this subject. I hope that he will not be a party to allow free and unlimited recruitment of labour either for Assam or for Malaya or other places. He must give us an assurance that those who have gone there are doing well. I have been taking interest in this subject for a long number of years; and I took an active part in the debate on labour recruitment for Assam along with my hon. Friends, when Sir Arthur Knapp was in charge. We did discuss the matter at length but we were not furnished with sufficient information to show that the people who had gone there were doing well and getting living wages. A very large number of the people were recruited during the last famine in the Ceded Districts and taken to Assam. Several hundreds returned quite disappointed with the wages given and with the climatic conditions. The Labour M. P. Mr. Jones and his friend have said that jute merchants are making on an average 90 per cent profits and some factories had made 300 per cent, with cheap Indian labour, and yet the conditions of the labourers are wretched and miserable. As an eminent writer put it, the Empire thrives on cheap native labour in India as well as many of the Colonies. I visited Ceylon, British Guiana, Trinidad Island and saw the Indian labourers working on plantations and read and studied the problems of labour in plantations in India. I am painfully aware of the fact that the export of Indian Labour has lowered the people of India in the estimation of the foreigner and even of the Negros, and the Indians are known as the 'Coolie race'—I was called by the Negro people in British Guiana 'a coolie king' and my hon. and distinguished Friend Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar will be called a coolie king if he visits any of the Colonies. The Government should see that the unfortunate labourers who go out to work under foriegners are treated well and get living wages.

"There is one other point I would mention. We are very thankful to the hon. the Revenue Member Mr. Marjoribanks for postponing the collection of kists and takkavi loans in our district on the representations made to the hon. Member by some of us. It was a timely and sympathetic action.

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"I would say a word on another matter, and that is this. Hon. Members on this side of the House are—I may say I am glad of it—always on the alert on questions affecting the Transferred subjects and they pounce on the Ministers, but they rather fight shy when they come to the Reserved side of the Government (Voices: 'No, no'). I have been noticing it. I have been a taluk board president and a district board president, and I have been a member of local boards for over forty years. My Friend on my left (Mr. Narasimha Raju) is only a junior to me. I am the oldest member of this Council also. Hon. Members in charge have been invariably sympathetic and encouraging to local bodies. Sir P. Rajagopala Achariyar under whom I served (Mr. C. V. S. Narasimha Raju:—'Served?'). I worked under him. He was the hon. President of this Council also. But the hon. the Raja of Panagal, the Minister in charge, has had a more trying and arduous task in facing an opposition and in answering bitter questions. I have been struck with his grit, his courage and I may add, calmness and patience in withstanding shafts of criticisms led by an expert like Mr. Satyamurti. I may say at once that I do not belong to his party. I belong to the Madras Presidency Association which stood for Congress reforms with communal representation—opposing the 'Justice Party' as it stood then. Our party had the sympathy and support of the Brahman leaders like my friend the hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar now sitting in the Treasury Bench. However, I respect and admire the hon. Raja when he fights for equal opportunities to all and for Indian claims.

"One word more. I would thank my hon. Friend Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar for retaining the Munsif's Court at Gooty. He has provided one lakh for the District Judge's house at Anantapur, and I hope he will kindly remember the representations made by the people of Kalyandrug and other places for a Munsif's Court at Anantapur. Litigants from Kalayandrug taluk in special, find it hard and costly now to obtain Civil remedies. As for the punitive police, which an hon. Member behind me suggests that I should refer to, well, I hope to deal with it and other questions connected with the punitive police on a future occasion. In the meanwhile I fully trust that the hon. the Law Member will abolish it (Laughter)."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"After the lunch interval, hon. Members of the Government will reply. The House will now adjourn and meet again at 2-45 p.m."

After Lunch (2-45 p m.).

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Mr. President, Sir, fifty-three hon. Members have spoken these three days and of them about thirty-six referred to the subjects relating to me and most of them have referred to education. There have been remarks good, bad and indifferent coming from various directions. It will be impossible for me to make individual references to all of them. There were a very large number of hon. Members who were so kind as to appreciate the work that has been done in Education and the other departments in my charge. They have analysed the work fully and found it to have been progressive. To them I express my grateful thanks. To those others who criticized I appreciate the spirit with which they have done. Specially I would refer to the criticism of the Member representing the City who confessedly ignorant of the figures of the

budget—and he did not take the pains to study and understand the budget having had no time—nevertheless was so good as to characterize the progress of education as nil. If only he had laboured a little and had discharged his responsibility to his constituency and to this House he would have seen that there are many things which indicate the progressive policy of the Department of Education."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—"Quality ?"

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Sometimes it is wise to be ignorant and sometimes it is very unwise to give expression to sentiments or ideas where one does not understand. Therefore unless the hon. Member representing the City is influenced by passion or prejudice he would certainly have found even on a cursory glance at the budget that there is a steady policy pursued in the matter of education. I would refer those who have used similar words only to a few items, new items of development that have found place in this budget. I say that with the co-operation of my hon. Colleagues Government have generously allowed always large concessions for education and if during the past years I have been able to show any progress it is because of the sympathy which His Excellency the Governor has always shown for the progress of education in this country and the great interest my hon Colleagues take in this matter. I would first refer the House to the new items of grants to the Madras University for research work in Zoology and Bio-Chemistry. It has been remarked that the Madras University was constituted as an examining body and after its reorganization nothing has been done, no provision has been made, and no facilities have been provided for the purpose of developing the teaching and research work. Now that the scheme was prepared by the Academic Council, Government examined the scheme and after necessary modifications have made provision for two new research laboratories in the University. Then there is the institution of the economic degree course in the Presidency College. Hon. Members are aware that this course has been introduced in the University after the great labours of Dr. Gilbert Slater. It is he that gave impetus to the study of economics as a science in Southern India. He has built up this department of economics in such a manner that now those whom he trained are able to follow what he set up as an ideal. Nevertheless colleges by themselves have not been able to carry on the work which he inaugurated. Therefore we have started this new study as a science in the Presidency College. Again there is the opening of science classes in the Muhammadan College. The most important thing I wish to lay emphasis upon and which I have been submitting to this House year after year is the expansion of rural education and to secure its expansion not only in quantity but in quality as through the agencies which carry on the work usually, namely, the local bodies and the aided agencies. The hon. Member, Mr. M. C. Raja, said that is not an aided agency but an aiding agency. Hon. Members will agree that it is more accurate to describe them in that way. If the aided agency is not there Government would have been compelled to spend more money for taking up their work. Now the aided agencies working in the rural areas are helping and aiding the Government in the object and ideal which they have in view. With a view to reorganise and expand education, hon. Members will remember, a conference of those interested in education was called for in 1923. After discussion the policy was declared by me on

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the floor of this House that it is the duty of Government to expand rural education and to open a school in every village with a population of 500 and over. To that end I have again to express my gratitude to my hon. Colleague, Mr. Moir, who undertook specially to work out a scheme on the lines indicated at the conference. We have laboured hard at it and with the aid of the Revenue department we have been able to ascertain the school centres—where there has not been a school hitherto and where there have been too many schools so that we may from a glance know from the maps where the schools are wanted most and estimate the provision for them. We have nearly 2,200 villages with a population of 500 and above. In the provision made for this year 1926-27 the problem which we had in view and which I explained to the House is now solved, viz., that there will be a school in every village with a population of 500 and above. The agencies that carry this work are already at work. Then the aided agencies have been helped further by giving them teaching grants on a higher scale. The aided agencies have been strugling and mission bodies have represented to me that they have come to the end of their resources and that it would be impossible for them to assist the Government in the matter of elementary education or carrying out the policy which we have initiated. Hence in the matter of encouragement of the aided agencies we have almost doubled the grants in some cases and raised one and a half times in other cases. A liberal provision has also been made in the budget in the matter of building grants. Similarly we have also taken advantage of the numerous panchayats that have been formed under the Panchayat Act. They are also empowered under the Panchayat Act that one of their functions would be to carry out elementary education and we have placed a large sum at the disposal of the Inspector-General who has prepared and submitted to us a scheme of the expansion of the activities of the panchayats pointing out that they are prepared to undertake the responsibility. Another advantage in associating these panchayats is that they are prepared of their own accord to find accommodation and supervise these schools. Hence these panchayats themselves will be managers of these schools and the schools will be looked after by them. The Government supervision by the educational authorities will continue as usual. Hence the panchayats which are a non-Governmental agency on the one side and the local bodies on the other side will co-ordinate in the matter of expansion of elementary education and as I said this policy will be completed at the end of 1926-27. One word more in regard to elementary education. With regard to these panchayats the public have always insisted on their having a library attached to them. It is proposed that the rural areas should be looked after not by having a school alone but at the same time there must be a library in a suitable place to which the villagers might resort for enlightenment. We have made a provision for the purpose of these libraries to be started through these panchayats and the report will be submitted by the Inspector-General that the work is being done properly and thoroughly. Again not merely have we provided for the expansion of education, not merely have we provided for the numerous schools to be opened hereafter but we are also making the necessary arrangements for having an effective supervision of the various schools that have been started now. For that purpose we have a provision in the budget for expanding the subordinate inspecting agency. Hon. Members will remember that in 1923 I submitted to the House a scheme

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regarding the deputy inspectors with a view to see that there may not be any multiplicity of work and to see that their work is confined to purely elementary education and that district educational officers may confine themselves to the high school and college work. Now we find that on account of the large number of schools and the expansion of elementary education both under the aided agencies and the local bodies we want effective supervsion. For that purpose the subordinate agency of inspection has to be considerably multiplied and this year the Finance Committee has accepted only a portion of the scheme that we submitted for its consideration. Thus hon. Members will see that everything that is needed for the rural education of the population which is the backbone of rural reconstruction and which is necessary in order to kindle the national consciousness is being done as a result of the policy enunciated in 1923. Then can it be said that we have not achieved anything, that we have not directed the policy properly, that we have not directed the policy earnestly and sincerely and that we have not done so in a manner which is worthy of the party and worthy of Government? So, Sir, without looking into the figures and without endeavouring to understand the budget to say that no progress has been made cannot but be ridiculous. I am sure that after the information that I have submitted hon. Members that have criticised will reflect for a moment and find that their statements are not well founded.

3 p.m. "Then, again, with reference to secondary education I have just one thing to draw attention to. I will not refer to what has been done hitherto but on what we are now doing. We want to emphasise on secondary education being really more useful and practicable. It is not that secondary education should be a preparatory course for the University alone. It is to be recognised as a unit in itself, and to that end we have been working actively at these secondary schools and enlisting the sympathy of parents and managers of institutions. Any change that we may make in secondary education must be necessarily very cautious. Because we have got a large number of aided institutions in charge of secondary education. We have to take them into our confidence and we have to convince them of the necessity of introducing practical courses of instruction. When in 1922 I first submitted to this House for consideration the idea of vocational education, or practical instruction, manual training, hon. Members felt doubts as to the progress that would be made in that direction and as to the utility of the scheme. But I am glad to say that when the question was mooted last year all hon. members were satisfied with the progress made and they pointed out to me practical examples of institutions where manual training in a higher form has been helpful to the students. There is no doubt a tendency on the part of institutions to adopt more and more practical courses, so that with the general education a bias has been created in the minds of students for vocational training, and they are beginning to understand that their education is not merely for the purpose of preparing themselves for the literary examination of the University to get their Secondary School-Leaving Certificate and go into the Intermediate class. But it will take some time to find an all-round belief and a taste for practical work, so that the students may not feel ashamed to do manual work and work as apprentices in workshops. That will be only a preliminary or a preparatory stage where their minds will be prepared for higher technical courses. That is what I emphasised, Sir, in 1922, and I am glad to say that

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in this budget we find an increased provision made, because there has been an increased demand in the country for that kind of education. If, as I submitted to this House, the beginning we have made in this direction is to work fully and completely, the co-operation of aided institutions is absolutely necessary. Parents believe that they send their boys to the high school to secure a pass in the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate, so that he may go to some office and earn Rs. 20 or Rs. 30. That is the kind of mentality that has been created in the minds of the parents. Therefore, it takes a long time for us to take the parents and the managers of institutions into our confidence and make them revise their ideas in regard to education, that it is not merely for the purpose of entering service but for the purpose of making a young man understand that he should be self-reliant, that there should be a strong element of self-respect created in him, and that he may be able to make proper use of his energy and intelligence. It is that aspect of education that we have been endeavouring to spread, and it is with that object that we have been trying to introduce practical courses in our schools and the attention of our inspecting agencies and our school masters is directed to that aspect. I am glad to say that there is greater and increasing response from the country. It cannot be achieved in a day, and these improvements should go on for a large number of years in order that the people may be convinced of its utility, and I may say in course of time it will be realized that it is not a principle that can be easily neglected or ignored. And whatever may be the party, whatever may be the creed of the party in power, all must agree that education in the secondary schools must be made more useful and practicable. It is this that we have been emphasising, and you will find a provision made in the budget for that purpose.

"A new item again in the budget which you will find is medical inspection, with a view to introducing compulsion. It has been said repeatedly that the health of the students on account of mental work and unhealthy school rooms was deteriorating. It is therefore necessary that an element of compulsion should be introduced on the part of management in order that the health of the students may be cared for. Now, we introduced this first in 1922, but we left it to the option of the managers that they may employ a certain class of medical officers to conduct medical inspection in schools and that they should send the medical report to the Director of Public Instruction through the Surgeon-General. The Surgeon-General will have to send his remarks to the managers through the District Educational Officers. This was the voluntary system we were continuing for the last three years, and we find that it is not so effective, and hence we have endeavoured to introduce a compulsory system of medical inspection. This is a very great step in the matter of insuring the health of the student population in high schools."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—" Is it by making managers pay ?"

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" A reference is necessary to the grant for libraries in charge of local bodies. I have already briefly referred to the grant given for the purpose of starting libraries through the village panchayats. But this is another grant for libraries which is given for general public libraries. Where there is great demand for libraries and where the District Collector and the District Educational Officer and the local people are satisfied that a particular library which has been started some

time ago, has not been receiving adequate aid for its expansion, on their recommendation grants-in-aid are given by the Director of Public Instruction. This, I submit, is a new item. Leaving aside the Andhra University scheme, the new items are grants to Madras University for a research laboratory, institution of an economic degree course, provision for medical inspection, grants to libraries, and the appointment of a special officer for the purpose of encouraging Mappilla education. I need hardly refer in detail to the need for compulsory education among the Mappillas. Because we find that unless we properly bring them up to the level of the other people in Malabar in point of education it would not be possible for us to make them listen to anything that is reasonable. They should be taken out of the narrow groove in which they are moving. So, Mappilla representatives have pressed on the attention of the Government that both in the Ernad and Walavanad taluks there should be a system of compulsory education. It was also one of the steps recommended by the Sub-Committee that was appointed to enquire into Mappilla affairs after the last rebellion. After full investigation, it has come to fruition, and we are going to have a special officer to organize educational advance among the Mappillas. We have been following a progressive policy all along.

" Now, Sir, it was stated that in the education budget a surrender of Rs. 2·12 lakhs was made. It is said the Educational Department has not been mindful of the requirements of the people and therefore the Ministry ought to be condemned. Again, passion and prejudice. A dispassionate view will at once show that where the budget consists of Rs. 150 lakhs and where Rs. 150 lakhs have to be expended by the department, there will be contingencies, and there will necessarily be short expenditure in some direction over which you have no control. A reasonable survey of it will convince at once that there must necessarily be some part which could not be controlled, and which may end in short expenditure I will ask this Honourable House in this connexion to refer for a moment to the figures in the Appropriation Report for 1924-25, page 108, and they will find at once how unfounded is the charge that has been deliberately made against us in the management and administration of the department. On the other hand, if a reasonable view is taken, not a jaundiced view, but a dispassionate view, you will find that the items of savings are necessarily inevitable. It is in the case of contingencies as you find from page 108 of the Appropriation Report. In the case of contingencies, it was estimated by the department to be Rs. 1·20 lakhs, and that in the course of the readjustments in the departments, the whole amount of contingencies that was budgeted for could not be expended. Then, again, there was an other item of saving of about Rs. 70,000 in connexion with grants to non-Government special schools, where we had a saving in the pay of officers and contingencies. Now, the whole point is this. We had to keep the posts of two or three officers of Government special schools vacant for want of specialists necessary for those particular posts. These could not be filled, and when we filled them by promotion from subordinate ranks, there was a saving in the pay of the officers of the All-India Service. Is it, Sir, a crime that we have been able to save some money on a particular head ? Is it not reasonable to expect that we have done our duty ? On this point, Sir, the hon. Member representing the City and the hon. Member for Vizagapatam have pointed out that this was a great defect in the administration, a great blot on the

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Ministry and that Rs. 2·12 lakhs have been surrendered. It is evident from the Appropriation Report for 1924-25 which is in the hands of hon. Members that this saving was in grants to special schools—pay of officers and contingencies, and under 'Inspection' you find a saving again in the matter of exchange compensation. Thus, you will find that the savings of Rs. 2·12 lakhs are not under any serviceable heads and are inevitable. Hon. Members will therefore see that any criticism which may come from whatever side of the House must be based on reason and not on passion or prejudice. If it can be shown that this surrender of Rs. 2·12 lakhs is one from an allotment intended for necessary developmental purposes and if such a developmental purpose could not be carried on on account of the remissness of duty on the part of the department, then it is time for any reasonable person to ask 'How is it that the amount has not been utilized?' Otherwise, it is not the legitimate right of anybody to ask how this amount has not been utilized.

"Hon. Members have heard the criticism in regard to university education, the Madras University Act and the Andhra University Act. Reference was made to them specially by the hon. Member representing the Central Zamindari Landholders, Dr. Subbarayan. I do not see him here. I wish very much that he was here on this occasion to listen to me. It is not the first time that such a criticism has been made. It is parrot-like repetition. On the other hand, there are experts who are more conversant with the university organization, persons who have worked the University Act and others who studied the Act carefully and expressed very good opinions. No piece of legislation can be perfect, but the wisdom lies in working it in an honest spirit, not in the spirit of obstruction or suspicion. There are university experts who have worked the university organization and they have thoroughly supported the scheme when it was discussed here and outside. Therefore, I will give preference to experts rather than to Dr. Subbarayan who talked without any understanding because he has not studied the Act thoroughly. He was not able to point out in what particular section he found the Act unworkable. If any specific reference has been made, I would have some respect for such criticism. But with no knowledge of the details of the Act, with no knowledge of its working, it is easy for any man in the street (hear, hear) to cry out 'Wolf.' It is not well for responsible Members of the House to make statements which they cannot support by reference to specific instances. I therefore deprecate from any side of the House any criticism which cannot be supported by tangible facts and figures. On the other hand one or two other sister Universities modelled their schemes on this. Being an example of imitation is the best form of appreciation." 3-15 p.m.

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—"May I know if the official Members have no time-limit, Sir?"

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"That is not a point of order, Sir. If my remarks are very painful and expose the ignorance of the Member for City, I must apologize; but I cannot help it when hon. Members cannot point out specific instances where the Act could not be worked. Then the hon Member said with reference to the Andhra University. 'O, Bezwada is the centre, what is the good.' I am afraid the hon. Member is not aware of the feeling in regard to this matter. An administrator will

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have to see to the expediency. What is necessary for a particular purpose may not be expedient. But has he studied it and worked it in order to pronounce a judgment? It is impatient, hasty criticism which I do not think the House will be prepared to accept. These are the only points on which any criticism was made with regard to the Education Department. On the other hand there have been some very useful suggestions made by my Friend Mr. M. C. Raja and Mr Guruswami and others that in regard to the depressed classes education facilities should be given to them and so on. All these questions will be very fully considered, and especially in regard to the application of Rule 72. I know there has been some agitation, but I cannot at this moment think it possible to give effect to them without consulting the Chancellor of the Exchequer (the Finance Member,) as it is the Finance Department that has to sanction the funds. If only the hon. Member know the number of proposals made to the Finance Department and the number of schemes accepted by them, he will realize that distribution should be among all the departments of Government. No particular department can claim special preference. Therefore all these must go into the hotchpotch of the Finance Committee. If there is difference of opinion they must be placed before them for the purpose of further treatment. Hon. Members will see that it is not easy for any Member or Minister to be able to give assurance definitely in the case of the budget without necessary discussion or consultation with the Finance Department and with his hon. Colleagues. Therefore the suggestions that have been made will be examined further in course of time to see how far they can best be met.

"Coming to Excise, my hon. Friend from Coimbatore said that the Finance Member and the Minister in charge are equally to blame in not having reduced the consumption so that prohibition may be introduced at this stage. If the committee that is to be appointed is able to point out ways and means by which the loss of revenue could be recouped, it shall be my duty to carry out that policy as early as possible. We are taking steps to appoint a committee to suggest means by which the loss of revenue could be recouped. After that is done further steps will be taken. We are considering the reorganziation of advisory committees and licensing boards. That will take time. I cannot therefore understand the impatience with which the hon. Member for Coimbatore has again adverted to the subject. During the debate Punjab was repeatedly referred to. I was charged and told why the Minister should not follow the Punjab in the matter of Excise Hon Members must have read that the Punjab Legislative Council by a large majority turned down the resolution recommending adoption of prohibition. So the only province that has been referred to as showing a tendency to prohibition has altogether dropped the question for the time being. So there is no force in saying that prohibition must come in 10 years or 15 years without first taking stock of our financial condition and how best we can recoup the loss. Once we see the way, prohibition will automatically follow because all measures must be adopted in order to replace the revenue lost.

"I again thank those Members who have appreciated the work done by the departments and on behalf of the heads of departments also I express my gratitude to them."

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* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"Mr. President, Sir, several hon. Members have raised the question of the large savings as shown in the appropriation reports of the Accountant-General in the departments under my control. The reasons for these savings are given in the appropriation reports themselves and it will, I am afraid, take up too much time of the House if I were to give the reasons for the savings during the years mentioned by the hon. Members. I would therefore content myself with stating the reasons for the savings during the latest year for which the accounts have been finally ascertained, viz., the year 1924–25, in which the amount saved was nearly Rs. 9 lakhs. Nearly Rs. 7 lakhs was the amount saved in the Industries Department and this amount is made up of the following items :—

'(1) Commercialization of the Kerala Soap Institute and the Fish Cannery at Chaliyam—a saving only in name, for these amounts have been transferred to the separate accounts of these commercial institutions.

'(2) Non-utilization of the provision made for the purchase of power drills. I may mention here that these were purchased during the current year and the department has not therefore suffered by the non-utilization in the previous year.'

"Other items are the provision made for payment to the Government of India for stocks of salt in the fish-curing yards, savings under pay and allowances of officers and establishments mainly due to non-employment and savings in the provision made for the British Empire Exhibition.

"The savings in the Agricultural Department amounted to Rs. $1\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs and the reason was that the full allotment under pay of officers, establishment and allowances could not be utilized and that a fixed grant under 'Contingencies' provided for the grant of land compensation could not be disbursed during the year. Hon. Members will perceive from this statement that the savings could not be avoided and that under the Financial rules in force it was not possible to utilize them for new schemes. The savings in the current year to which the hon. Member Mr. Srinivasa Ayyangar referred amount to nearly Rs. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. The amount allotted for building the Leather Trades Institute was not fully spent as well as the provision for the purchase of pumping sets which are proposed to be purchased next year. Other reasons are the commercialization of the workshop attached to the Industrial Institute at Madura and the fact that the Fruit-Preserving Institute was not being worked to its full capacity during the year.

"The hon. Member from Bellary, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, gave the House some statistics about the number of agricultural and industrial workers and drew the conclusion therefrom that the departments of Agriculture and Industries did not render any benefit to the people. It is not easy within the short space of time at my disposal to meet a general charge of this kind which is on the face of it unsustainable. The activities of these departments and the good they have done to the people at large are patent from their annual reports published for general information."

MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"May I ask the hon. Minister to say whether he has done anything to enquire into the causes and find remedy therefor?"

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* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" I may remind the House that the Department of Industries which was originally created in October 1908 was abolished after two years and that it was resuscitated only in March 1914, in other words, just before the eve of the Great War. Everybody knows the effect which the Great War had on industries in general and the disastrous effect which it had on even old and well established industries in the West. In these circumstances, it was not reasonable to expect that much progress would be made during the time when the whole world was involved in war or in meeting the new conditions which came into existence as an aftermath of the war. As a matter of fact, until five or six years ago the net cost of the department was under two lakhs and it was only during the past five or six years that the Industries Department had a fair opportunity to carry out the objects for which it was constituted. To bring into existence a large number of new industries within this short time would have been nothing short of a miracle and though during this short period the department has not been able to achieve any miracle it has done a good deal. The department had its disappointments and failures but it has also had some successes and there is every reason to hope that more success will attend its efforts.

" As regards the Agricultural Department an estimate made in 1922 showed that not less than a sum of Rs. $2\frac{1}{4}$ crores had been earned in addition by the ryots in the Presidency during one single year as a result of the activities of the Agricultural Department. I submit therefore to the House that there is no justification for the sweeping remark that the Agricultural and Industries departments have not done any good to the people in the Province.

" Sir Alexander MacDougall while generally blessing the work of the Industries Department made one suggestion, namely, that one or two institutes which are now being maintained might well be abolished and he mentioned the Fruit Preserving Institute at Coonoor in particular. In reply to this suggestion I would like to say that the Government are always watching the working of these institutes very carefully at frequent intervals and they have come to the conclusion that the Fruit-Preserving Institute at Coonoor should be finally closed.

" Another hon. Member representing the commercial interests of the Presidency, Mr. Wood, has desired that I should make a statement of policy in the matter of Government enterprises and in making this request he added that there was some indication recently of a departure from the original policy of the Government of granting financial assistance to commercial concerns only when existing institutions would not be adversely affected. He also wanted an assurance from me that it is not the policy of Government to support inefficiency in order to destroy efficiency. I am of course quite ready to give this assurance if any such assurance is really needed. The policy of the Government in the matter of Government enterprises has been laid down so recently as 19th October 1925 in the Review of the Administration Report of the Industries Department which was placed on the
3-30 p.m. Editors' Table. The Government have declared that their object in starting pioneer factories is not to inaugurate a system of State trading but to test the possibility of manufacturing on commercial lines certain articles in

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common use which have hitherto been imported from abroad or from other parts of India. The Government have also added that their policy is to retire from manufacture in favour of private enterprises, if commercial success is not attained, or to discontinue the experiment if the prospect of success appeared to be too doubtful or remote to justify further expenditure. In view of the facilities now offered by the State Aid to Industries Act, the Government consider that the experimental work of the Industries Department should not, as a rule, proceed beyond the stage of laboratory test and that pioneer manufacture on a commercial scale may, in future, be left mainly, if not entirely, to private enterprise. I am confident that my hon. Friend, Mr. Wood, will take no objection to this statement of policy made in October last. As regards the policy of Government in the matter of granting financial aid to commercial concerns there has been no departure from the original policy of Government as suggested by my hon. Friend, Mr. Wood.

" Before passing to another subject, I would like to make a short reference to the complaint of the hon. Member from South Kanara, Mr. Saldanha, that several industries established at Mangalore and Madras were being throttled out of existence on account of financial stringency. The hon. Member referred to the tile factories in Mangalore and the South Indian Industrials in Madras and he found fault with the Government for not taking action under the State Aid to Industries Act with a view to help these concerns. The hon. Member must be aware that the Act prescribes in section 5 thereof the directions in which aid may be given under the Act, viz., that it should be given either to new or nascent industries or industries to be newly developed in areas where such industries are undeveloped or to cottage industries, and the Government have no power to give any aid under the Act to any concerns which do not fall within the purview of the Act. The Government have received no applications for aid under the Act from these concerns.

" The only reference made to the working of the Veterinary Department was by the hon. Member for Nellore, Mr. Ramachandra Reddi; he referred to the necessity of increasing the number of veterinary dispensaries, and to a promise about opening of new dispensaries which has not been performed. I may at once say that the promise has been kept and that the Government have sanctioned the opening of six dispensaries including the one at Kavali in the Nellore district during the current year and that provision has been made for the next year for six new dispensaries including one at Venkatagiri.

" Coming next to the Agricultural Department, my hon. Friend, Mr. Gopala Menon, referred to the small provision made for statistical work and under Exhibitions and Fairs. I would like to remind my hon. Friend that the amount shown in the Agricultural budget does not represent the entire expenditure which the Government incur on the compilation of statistics in the Presidency. It only represents the amount which the Government are spending on the statistical section in the office of the Director of Agriculture. The Board of Revenue also does a portion of this work while almost all the Revenue officers send statistical reports to the Board and the Director as part of their regular duties. As regards the provision under Exhibitions and Fairs, the provision made is sufficient to meet the demand and the Government will be prepared to consider the question of making further grants for

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this purpose, if they are convinced that improvement of breed is likely to be achieved or helped by holding the shows. The Government also award prizes to the best cared-for calves born to Government stud bulls. Mr. Gopala Menon also referred to the reduction of $1\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs in the provision for the Agricultural Research Institute. This difference is really due to the fact that the current year's allotment under this head includes a provision of over Rs. 1,65,800 for acquisition of lands for two paddy breeding stations, namely, at Maruteru in West Godavari and Pattambi in Malabar. Deducting this non-recurring outlay the amount provided for next year shows really an increase under this head.

"Several hon. Members have urged the need for more agricultural banks helped by State funds. I may at once say that the Government appreciate the need for land mortgage banks and they have decided to help the starting of four land mortgage banks in the Presidency during the current year by guaranteeing half the capital required for each bank subject to a maximum of Rs. 50,000 for each bank provided the other half is found by the public. These four banks have been organized and registered already and the Government propose to help four new banks next year in the same manner if the need should arise."

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao :—" May I know in what district ? "

* Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar :—" May I know, of the four banks, which are said to have been started, how many have actually begun work ? "

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T.N. Sivagnanam Pillai:—" These banks, if they are to be successful, must ultimately be able to do without Government assistance and the assistance which the Government are prepared to give ought to be sufficient to promote the object in view, viz., to assist the formation of these banks. The extension of these banks and their usefulness must ultimately depend on the amount of support which they are able to secure from the general public.

" Mr. Arpudaswami Udayar has appealed for more funds for demonstration of agricultural methods recommended by the Agricultural Department and for extension of agricultural education. Demonstration is in the forefront of the programme of the Agricultural Department. Consistent with its other commitments all the available staff is concentrated on this work. For want of qualified and eligible candidates the sanctioned posts of demonstrators have had to be kept vacant. Clerks and others are not properly equipped for the work and it is not desirable to entrust this important work to them. The department, however, employs ' maistris ' on demonstration work under the control and guidance of the demonstrators. As to the extension of agricultural education, there is an impression that the middle schools have not been a success. As to the extension of agricultural education the Government recently decided in consultation with the Advisory Committee to await the recommendation of the Secondary Education Committee.

" As regards the provision for the land and buildings at the Hosur Farm adverted to by Mr. Vellingiri Gounder the provision is required to pay the Government of India the value of the lands and buildings which we have taken over but which have not yet been paid for, pending the finding of the Arbitration Committee which will shortly meet to value the land and buildings. The other expenditure required is the working expenses of the farm

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with its large herd. A fodder reserve is maintained at the farm. And a recent report from the Director goes to show that the cattle at the Hosur farm is in excellent condition, especially the Kangayam cattle, and that there is every prospect of its becoming an ideal farm. Provision has also been made in the next year's estimates for inaugurating a dairy scheme which, to begin with, will undertake the supply of milk to Madras hospitals in collaboration with the Imperial Dairy at Bangalore.

" As regards the working of the Agricultural Engineering section, it may be stated that we have not yet had a type of officer who will undertake real research into the various sorts of agricultural machinery and design them to suit South Indian conditions. Long ago the Government approved a scheme for the recuritment of an officer but for financial reasons they have not been able to give effect to it. It is hoped to take this matter in hand in 1927.

" As regards agricultural education, Mr. Vellingiri Gounder knows that it has been engaging the attention of the Government for some time past and the question was discussed with the Advisory Committee. As regards the suggestion that agricultural education should be imparted in village schools to which lands should be attached, the matter pertains really to the Education department. The Secondary Education Committee which is now sitting will deal with this question and it will in due course come before Government for consideration.

" Coming to the field of co-operation, I observe that Mr. Adinarayana Chettiyar has traversed the whole work of the co-operative department and called in question its utility and the efficiency of its officers for the work they have to do. He wants to make out that the movement has not benefited the ryots. I, however, find that in the one year 1924-25 the primary societies have advanced loans amounting to nearly 92 lakhs to pay off prior debts and that the total loans advanced by these societies to members is as high as 2·89 crores. The total amount lent by primary societies since the movement started is Rs. 17,12,00,000 and Rs. 5,68,00,000 have been advanced for the liquidation of prior debts. The average loan per member works out to 42 in 1924-25, 41 in 1923-24 and 42 and 41 in the previous two years. I do not claim for the co-operative department that it has completely solved the problem of indebtedness of the ryots, but, considering the financial arrangements in force, there is no denying the fact that the movement has gone a great way to wean the agriculturists from the grasping money-lenders and to reduce the general level of rates of interest. Only quite recently the department has made an attempt to open land mortgage banks specially to relieve rural indebtedness of small holders and with the opening of more land mortgage banks, it is hoped that substantial progress will be made in extinguishing the large agricultural indebtedness.

" On the need for a strong controlling staff in the department, I can only refer the hon. Member to the legal position of the Registrar and the Government under the Act. The Registrar is the foundation of the movement and if he is to discharge the duties entrusted to him efficiently and if the Local Government's position in relation to the movement is to be maintained it will become very difficult, if not impossible, unless the powers under the Act were wielded by officers over whom we can have complete control and who can be made to feel their responsibility to the Government. Criticism has been strongly levelled against the new appointment of Joint Registrar. The

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working of the department, especially since the development scheme was sanctioned in 1920, has convinced the Government that the Registrar single-handed cannot perform satisfactorily all the duties of his office. The post of Joint Registrar has been proposed after a very careful consideration of its need. The Registrar has delegated, as far as possible, duties to the subordinate officers and it is no longer possible for him even to carry on, much less to discharge, his responsibilities to the Government, to the movement and to the general public without substantial relief."

*Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"May I ask the hon Minister. . . . ?"

*The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Is it a point of order or a personal explanation?"

3-45 p.m. *The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"As to the criticism that this appointment was not included in the scheme of recent reorganization it may be stated that the reorganization dealt with only the question of the requirements of the district and the disposition of the district staff while the present appointment concerns the question of relief at headquarters. The Government are fully alive to the disadvantages of over-officialization. Though in matters such as bank management and supervision much work has been done in several places by non-officials, the fact remains that there is a tendency for primary societies to fall short of the co-operative ideal and it is possible in present conditions to attain this ideal only under careful and diligent guidance of men who can be expected to devote their whole time and energy to the cause. Non-officials, however willing and enthusiastic they may be, cannot be expected to bring that constant and close control to bear on the movement as well as the paid officers of Government. It is therefore necessary to have a strong controlling staff. By this it is not intended to say that the movement should be kept in the leading strings of Governmental machinery. So far as the administrative duties connected with the movement are concerned, a beginning has been made to divide the district staff into administrative and audit sections and to-day out of a number of nearly 230 inspectors only about 50 are entrusted with administrative duties and this is necessary because union development, rapid as it has been, has not become efficient in all cases; nor have all the societies come into the union scheme. It is only to provide for the supervision of such societies that the administrative staff is intended. The ultimate ideal is to keep permanent only such staff as will be found necessary to conduct the audit of primary societies; the existing number of administrative inspectors will very soon be absorbed in audit work.

"Reference has been made to the increase of overdues. No one is more anxious and concerned about this than the Registrar and the Government and as will be seen from the recent administration reports this question has been constantly engaging their attention. Large arrears are due either to laxity in collection work or to the inability of the members to pay in stated instalments. Much useful work can be done if the panchayats of the village societies are constantly on the watch to recover the loans as they fall due. The Government have also impressed on the departmental officers the importance of their duty in the matter.

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"Reference has been made that the department's usefulness has been affected by communal wrangles. It may be stated, without fear of contradiction, that the main aim of the department has been the promotion of co-operation and unity among the various classes of disinterested gentlemen working in the movement and the suggestion that attempts are insiduously made by the department to foment communal differences is unfounded and cannot be too strongly deprecated."

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"May I give him specific instances now, Sir?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Not now, I am sorry."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Mr. President, Sir, a flight of poetic imagination has enabled my hon. Friend opposite, the Leader of the Opposition, to see in the hon. Finance Member, a centre of a solar system. I have no such flights to help me. I must be content with being prosaic; yet I have eyes to see. My hon. Friend, Mr. Moir, occupies the centre of the Treasury bench. Whether we are his satellites or not (Rao Bahadur C. V. S. Narasimha Raju: 'I called them planets'), whether he attracts us or repels, I cannot let this opportunity go without offering my hearty congratulations to him on his splendid performance of preparing his first budget for presentation to this hon. House. I honestly think that the budget before us is the result of labour, sagacity and straightforwardness. Some hon. Members, however, have characterized it as anything but satisfactory. They assert that it is a deficit budget and to budget for deficit is against all the canons of sound finance. For my part, I think that their assertion is an assertion of a half truth. It must be remembered that Mr. Moir has had to prepare his budget under extraordinary circumstances. On the one side, there have been demands for funds in various departments for keeping up progress in the administration. On the other side, there is considerable financial relief still due from the Government of India in the shape of remission in the Madras provincial contribution. The Finance Member has had to calculate the degrees of urgency in the demands and the chances of relief from the Government of India. He has had to chalk out his line under a complicated set of circumstances and I daresay he has done it wisely. Is it not wisdom on the part of a Finance Member to avoid blocking the progress particularly in the nation-building departments even at the risk of budgeting for a deficit, a deficit which could be made good when the expected financial relief from the Government of India comes? I am glad to say that it is as good as having come.

"I shall now try to answer the more important of the criticisms offered by the hon. Members in the course of the debate. But before I do so, I would classify these criticisms into those which were offered with a sense of full responsibility and those which are not so offered. I shall first deal with the criticisms under the first head.

"It was pointed out that by assenting to this budget arrangement, the Ministers have allowed the Transferred subjects to suffer. I too thought so at one time. Those who held this opinion argue that any financial relief we get from the Government of India will have to be chargeable for the wiping out of the deficit and that the chances of the nation-building departments getting the benefit of the relief will be nil. This argument loses its force

when we take into consideration the fact that the deficit is mainly due to the provision being made in the budget for what are known as the II and III class schemes and that the provision for the II and III class schemes in the Transferred departments amounts to nearly 55 lakhs of rupees. Thus it will be seen that the Transferred subjects get the main portion of the financial relief which the provincial finance gets by way of reduction in the Madras contribution to the Central Government. The hon. Leader of the Opposition thinks that the Ministers are not assertive enough to get their share for the benefit of the Transferred subjects."

* Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—" I said that it depended on the relative knack of the departments to get money."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" In view of what I have said above, I am sure he will revise his opinion. Of course the Ministers will be glad to get a larger share of the provincial finance, but they cannot afford to be unreasonable.

" The hon. Member for Godavari, Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu, suggested that the Members of the Government should have programmes of progressive policies in their several departments. We do have such programmes and we try to give effect to such policies in due course. It is more difficult to give effect to these policies than to draw up their programmes. The carrying out of the policy is a matter of expenditure of funds. We are, however, taking steps to carry out our policies of progress. On the Ministerial side, the most important programme of work we have before us is the improvement of the conditions of life in rural areas. The hon. Member might be aware of the measures that are being introduced in carrying out this programme.

" The hon. Member from Nellore seems to have been annoyed at the compliment which the Secretary of State had been pleased to pay to the Madras Ministry by his observations :

' In Madras, the transitional constitution has worked with a great measure of success. Ministers have used their influence to steady public opinion and feeling and have displayed a general moderation and no small measure of statesmanship.'

" He challenged the Secretary of State's compliment, and said that no credit is due to the Ministers because they have not been able to effect any improvement in the conditions of rural life. I wonder how an hon. Member like Mr. Krishna Rao Pantulu could have closed his eyes to what is going on in the rural areas ; how he could have been oblivious to the activities of the district and taluk and health staffs and of the medical men in charge of rural dispensaries, to the schemes of rural roads and rural water-supply that are being executed, to the spread of elementary education and co-operative movement in rural areas. Cannot the Ministry take credit to having introduced these measures to ameliorate the condition of the rural population ?

" Another hon. Member, I think the Member for South Arcot, took the Government to task for not being able to spend the amount of funds allotted. So far as the Local Self-Government Department is concerned, facts and figures before me show that that department has not only spent the amounts allotted but a great deal more. If the hon. Member wants the details of information, I have no objection to supply them to him. The same Member has referred to the laxity in the matter of collections, by the district municipalities. I admit there has been laxity in the matter of collections in the case of certain municipal councils. The councils have been

called upon to apply themselves to the work more vigorously and as the hon. Members are aware, it is also under contemplation to amend the District Municipalities Act to provide for the appointment of executive officers.

"The hon. Member representing the Indian Chamber of Commerce complained that the provision in the budget under discussion, under 'Public Health', is less by 19 lakhs. I do not know how he has arrived at this figure. I am afraid, he is wrong in his calculations. It is true that under the head of 'Public Health', there is a decrease of 5·8 lakhs in the allotment, but that decrease is due to the fact that the Government have not yet provided for village water-supply schemes in the budget for the ensuing year. We did not provide for this because, we did not know exactly how much of the provision made in the current year's budget has been utilized. I am glad to assure the hon. House that it is proposed to move a supplemental demand for the village water-supply schemes and village roads after the budget demands are voted.

"The hon. Member for Bellary, Mr. Siva Rao, expressed his dissatisfaction at the recommendations of the Financial Relations Committee not having been accepted by the Government. I need hardly remind this House that most of the recommendations have already been accepted and effect has been given to them. If some of the recommendations have not been accepted, it is due to paucity of funds. As the result of the acceptance of the recommendations of the Financial Relations Committee, local bodies have obtained considerable financial relief. Some Members complained that there is no provision made for village roads and village water-supply schemes. If there is no such provision, it is because we have no definite information as to what portion of 12½ lakhs allotted in the current year's budget has been utilized for these works. I am glad, however, to assure the House that I am going to move a supplemental grant to make provision for village roads and village water-supply schemes.

"Other hon. Members have raised other points, but as they mostly relate to the local needs, I am content with giving the general reply that when the suggestions involved in the points take the shape of formal proposals, the Government will be pleased to give their best consideration to them.

"Now, Sir, I come to the second category of criticisms, criticisms, which I must say are not levelled with any sense of responsibility. They relate to the nominations of members to the local bodies. My first idea was that I had better not reply to them inasmuch as they were meant merely as a party attack. Since, however, I have read in one of the interested dailies of Madras, an editorial based on the misleading statements made by some of the hon. Members, I changed my idea and proposed to reply some of the 4 p.m. remarks which were made by the hon. Members. In this connexion, let me state that of the nominations of members to the local bodies, a large majority of them are made by the presidents of the district boards and the presidents of taluk boards. They are doing their duty to the best of their light. The Government, however, cannot be held responsible for any of these nominations. The nominations to the district municipalities and the district boards are by a convention made on the recommendation of the district collectors and the district board presidents respectively. The collectors and the district board presidents send up the recommendations and the Government generally accept

them. In the case of the City Corporation, the nominations are made by the Government even after the introduction of the Act of 1919. Sir P. Rajagopala Achariyar used to make the nominations sometimes in consultation with the Commissioner and sometimes without any consultation with him. He never used to consult the President."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—"During the time of Sir Rajagopala Achariyar there were no commissioners."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"There was a Commissioner. Mr. Burkitt was the first Commissioner and later on Sir Habib-ul-lah."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—"Mr. Burkitt was no doubt Commissioner. Sir Rajagopala Achariyar was then the hon. the President of this House."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"He became President of the Council only in December. After I took charge of the portfolio, I thought I had better consult the President or the Commissioner of the Corporation whenever I found that such consultation was necessary. But there is no provision or rule in the Act of 1919 for the consultation with the Commissioner or the President, nor is there a convention to that effect. Yet, after I took charge I used to consult sometimes the President and sometimes the Commissioner. Even to-day there are the recommendations of the President before the Government. I will certainly consider them but that does not mean that I am bound to accept them. It is stated that I have been making it a point to nominate party men. If that were so, how could so many of them whom I see on the Opposition have been nominated by me? If the suggestion is that I should not nominate party men, whatever might be their desert for nomination, I must say, I decline to accept the suggestion.

"Sir, I myself realize that the system of nominations is likely to be misunderstood and misrepresented by those whom the nominations do not please. It is impossible to please all by nominating some. This system is a legacy left to me. I wanted to do away with the nominations altogether but the representatives of the various interests, for whose benefit the nominations are intended, objected to the system of nominations being substituted by any other system, to ensure their representation. I have been seriously thinking to do away with the system of nominations in the proposed overhauling of the machinery of Local Self-Government; the question has been referred to a committee and they are expected to put up proposals soon. There has been a great deal of bitterness exhibited by the hon. Member for the city of Madras and the hon. Member for Bellary; the mind of the former seems to be embittered at the disappointment caused by the presence of Rao Bahadur Thanikachallam Chettiyar in the Corporation and that of the latter by the absence of his nominees on the taluk boards in the Bellary district. I cannot, however, help it. Even if these hon. Members are infuriated and used unwarranted language in their remarks, let me not work myself up to that state of infuriated mind in replying to those remarks."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—"On a matter of personal explanation, Sir. I promised to produce the letter which I had in my possession with regard to the practice or the alleged practice that is observed in the matter of nomination to the Corporation. It is a letter written by the hon. the Raja of Panagal. The nomination of members . . ."

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The statement is quite enough. The hon. Member need not read the contents of the letter."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I used to consult the President sometimes and the Commissioner sometimes."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR:—"I just want to contradict that statement."

* The hon the PRESIDENT:—"The Raja of Panagal also has admitted that he has consulted the President of the Corporation. That fact is not disputed by either of the hon. Members."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Thanks to our esteemed Vice-President, he has been pleased to attribute many excellent qualities to me which I am aware I do not possess. One of those qualities is patience. Let me try to deserve that quality. Says Valmiki,—

క్రుద్ధః పాపం నకుర్యాత్కః క్రుద్ధో హన్యాత్ గురూనపి ।
క్రుద్ధః పరుషయావాచా నరస్సాధూ నధిక్షిపేత్ ॥
వాచ్యాఽవాచ్యం ప్రకుపితో నవి జానాతికర్హిచిత్ ।
నాఽవాచ్య మపిక్రుద్ధస్య నాఽకార్యంవిద్యతేక్వచిత్ ॥

"Which man infuriated does not commit sin? A man in fury attacks even men entitled to consideration. With a bitterness of expression he condemns innocent men. He never knows what to say and what not to say. There is nothing, however objectionable, that he would not indulge in, either in word or in deed."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, with regard to some of the criticisms that have been levelled against the departments in my charge, I should like to give a brief reply. My hon. Friend from Coimbatore, Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar, said that the extent that was expected to be transferred to the management of the forest panchayats was about three-fourths of the reserve forests. From that, he came to the conclusion that there should be a great deal of reduction in the expenditure of the Forest department. I find from the records that only about 2,800 square miles of forest reserves out of 19,000 square miles are to be transferred to the panchayats. It is only about 15 per cent of the present area that is to be transferred and not 75 per cent. I also find from the statement supplied to the Government by the Chief Conservator of Forests that when the area is handed over to the management of the forest panchayats we are going to save about one lakh of rupees or so. We hope to be able to transfer a great deal of the forest area to the management of the forest panchayats during the course of this year. We have already abolished certain Forest ranges on account of the fact that forest panchayats have already come into existence in certain divisions. We have abolished Forest ranges of the Kistna division, Chingleput division, Bellary Forest division and the Kundapuram range. We hope to abolish about four more Forest ranges. From the papers I find that we have saved a sum of Rs. 1,620 by the abolition of the Kundapuram range and a sum of Rs. 5,172 by the abolition of the Adoni division. Altogether a sum of Rs. 13,000 has already been saved and in the course of the year when the forest panchayat system is extended I hope there will be a substantial reduction.

"My hon. Friend from Coimbatore also said that the income from the department was almost equal to the expenditure on the department. There are certain reasons why this is so. In the first place, we were not able to realize from sandalwood at Kollegal as much money as we thought we would be able to realize on account of the spike disease. Further, we have included in this year's budget a sum of Rs. 85,000 that was sanctioned last year by the Legislative Council for saw-mills to be established at South Kanara, Wynaad and at Mount Stuart. It will take some time before we can expect anything from these investments. It is only two and a half years ago that exploitation schemes were undertaken by the Chief Forest Engineer, Mr. Martin.

"The question of green manure was brought to the notice of the House and it was said that it must be sold at the rate of six annas a cart-load. In February 1925 the House passed a resolution that there should be a reduction in the rate at which green manure is supplied and, after the resolution was passed, the Government have called upon the Chief Conservator of Forests and the Director of Agriculture to submit a report on this question. The House further wanted that we should consult local opinion. In accordance with the wish of the House, the Chief Conservator of Forests has been asked to consult local opinion before submitting a joint report. The Government is awaiting that report and when it is received I shall bestow my earnest attention upon it.

"Another question raised during the course of the discussion was 'why rangers are not appointed as panchayat officers'. It has been ascertained that in the best interests of forest management it is better that the forest panchayats should have very little to do with forest officers. This question was discussed at a meeting of the Forest Advisory Committee and at Collectors' Conference also. Both these bodies have come to the conclusion that it is better that the forest panchayat system is in charge of the Revenue Department under deputy collectors. In accordance with the decision, the Government have appointed deputy collectors as forest panchayat officers.

"Another charge that has been levelled against the Forest Department is that it offers no scope for promotion for those who entered the department. I have examined the question and I find that the superior services of the department are on a time-scale basis. Therefore no such complaint can be made against the department. But there is some ground for complaint with regard to the way in which recruitments are made for the posts of rangers. I find that some kind of preference is given to those who have got higher educational qualifications, and the question is before the Government as to what they should do to see that there is no hardship.

"One hon. Member said that we have six extra Assistant Conservators and no duty has been allotted for them. I find from the records there are six supernumerary extra Assistant Conservators owing to over-recruitment in the year 1921. The Government have stopped recruitment ever since and these people are being absorbed into the permanent staff of the Forest Department. As I have already pointed out, this year there has been no increase in the number of exploitation officers. I think it was my hon. Friend from Coimbatore who said that exploitation officers are continuing to increase. The hon. Member will find from the budget that this is not so.

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" Another criticism that was levelled is that there has been no reduction in the stamp duty. I think it was my hon. Friend Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar who said that the time has come when we should make a reduction in our stamp duty. The Stamp Amendment Act was passed in the year 1922 as a fiscal measure in order to augment the revenues of our province ; and I do not think we can go back to our former rates on account of the fact that we have not got a balanced budget. Our budget is a deficit budget. Further, there are incessant demands from various departments of the Government for increased grants.

" There has been a certain amount of criticism with regard to the administration of the Criminal Tribes Act. My hon. Friends, Mr. Rameswara Rao and Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, spoke vehemently about it. Hon. Members will find that the policy in regard to the registration of criminal tribes is given in the answer given yesterday to the question of my hon. Friend from Anantapur—

' Proposals for registration under the Criminal Tribes Act are not submitted to Government in respect of persons individually. Proposals are submitted in respect of a tribe and the tribe is notified as a criminal tribe if the Government are satisfied that the members are addicted to the systematic commission of non-bailable offences. When they issue a notification, the Government at the same time direct the District Magistrate to make, or cause to be made, a register of the members of the tribe within the limits of his jurisdiction. The District Magistrate has power to exempt any member of the tribe from registration. The selection of members of the tribe for registration is a matter within the discretion of the District Magistrate and reasons for their registration are not furnished by him to Government.'

" Therefore, Sir, if any hon. Member thinks that there is any miscarriage of justice anywhere and if my notice is drawn to it, I am prepared to look into the case and see what I can do in the matter.

" Another charge levelled on this matter by the hon. Member for Chingleput is that no civilized Government would permit persons to go and report to the police station twice a day. So far as I am aware, I do not think there is any such rule. We should also remember that a civilized Government have to protect all peaceful people. The Government have also a duty to see that crimes are not committed upon the public ; they are responsible for the preservation of peace also. But after the remarks made by the hon. Member from Chingleput, I have asked the Chief Secretary to call for a report and when I get that report I shall see what I can do. I may say for the information of this House that Government are fully aware of the defects in the working of these rules and that they are trying to have them amended very soon. I hope, with the assistance of my hon. Colleague, the Law Member, the rules relating to the Criminal Tribes Act will undergo an examination and the various suggestions made by hon. Members of this House will receive due consideration." 4-15 p.m.

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO :—" There are no rules passed by the Government, but they are departmental orders of the Collector."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Sir, with regard to the Yanadis, their case has been brought before this House by my hon. Friend from Chingleput and I have called for a report so that when the report comes I shall have an opportunity of looking into the question.

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"My hon. Friend for the City of Madras Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chettiyar said that the bad sanitary condition of the cheris in Madras is due to the fact that Government have been neglecting their cheris. I should like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that we have not been unmindful of our duty in the matter. In the year 1924 we appointed a district labour officer, one of whose duties is to attend to the sanitary condition of these cheris, and in that year a sum of Rs. 18,000 was provided in the budget and a greater portion of this sum was spent in improving the sanitary condition of these cheris. In the current year we have spent a sum of Rs. 7,000 and for the next year we have provided a sum of Rs. 15,000. So I can assure my hon. Friend that Government have not been unmindful in the matter."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—" What has been done is a particle in the ocean."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" With regard to jail administration, my hon. Friend Mr. Veerian raised the question of the depressed class people being asked to do scavenging work and asked why the system prevalent in the Alipuram jail should not be extended to other jails also. When I went to Bellary some four or five months ago, I went into the question of incinerators, but it was found that this was absolutely impossible to be introduced in other jails on account of the fact that Alipuram jail was once barracks for British soldiers. Here the prisoners are made to live in various blocks and each block is provided with an incinerator where each prisoner should go and throw his night soil. Such a system would not work in our ordinary jails. The only system that we can think of is the flush-out system and for that we require a large sum of money and there is the further difficulty of water-supply also. I understand from the Inspector-General of Prisons that only those members of the community who are accustomed to do scavenging work are asked to do this work in jails.

"Mr. Abbas Ali has raised the question of the belchains. I may say that it was in the month of August that I came before this House with a supplementary demand for a sum of Rs. 80,000 for abolishing the belchain system and I think it is being abolished and before long I hope that system will be completely abolished in the Alipuram jail.

"My hon. Friend also raised the question of giving moral instructions to prisoners. In this connexion I may say that when the Inspectors-General of Prisons came to Madras about three months ago, they clearly told us that the Madras jails were the most progressive jails throughout the whole of India, and that they were the ideal jails. In the Madras jails we have always been keeping up certain ideals before us. It has been considered at the present moment that jails are not places of punishment but are reformatories. A prisoner is given there some kind of moral instruction, he is made to learn the three R's and he is also made to learn some kind of industry or other so that when he goes out of the prison, he is sure of earning his livelihood. Sir, these three ideals we have been keeping before us in our Jail administration.

"Sir, we find it very difficult in the mufassal places to get honorary workers as lecturers in our jails. If hon. Members of this Council and public bodies will co-operate with us in giving us assistance for providing honorary

lecturers and also induce those men who are fit to do this kind of work to take up such work, Government will provide all kinds of assistance they can. Government believe that they should give the prisoners some kind of moral instruction, but their great difficulty is to find people who will be able to do this kind of work.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Veerian, has stated that we have not been doing sufficiently for the spreading of the activities of the Labour department. I can assure this House that my hon. Friend the Finance Member whose sympathies towards the depressed classes are well known and myself have been considering this question for some time and we thought that this year we could successfully extend the activities of this department only to two districts. Every one must remember that the Commissioner of Labour has got a good deal to do and if we want things to be done efficiently and thoroughly we shall be able to extend the activities of the Labour department only slowly. There is no use of wasting money by extending the activities of the department to various districts without proper supervision or without efficient management.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Raja, said that a special committee should be appointed to go into the question of what best may be done in order to uplift the depressed classes. I can remind him that only the other day he was nominated as a member of the Depressed Classes Advisory Committee and that Committee can do all that he contemplates. If that Committee only tell me what they want and if their request is reasonable, I shall be most happy to comply with it.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Kesava Pillai, wanted that I should inquire into the question of getting some information about those who go to Assam. I find that that information is generally published in the papers and is also to be found in the report of the Assam Labour Board and whenever we find that there are certain persons whose whereabouts we are not in a position to trace, we address the Labour Board of Assam and they supply us with such information as we want.

" In conclusion I promise the House that if specific instances are brought to my notice I shall enquire into them and see that whatever is possible is done in the matter. I may also assure hon. Members that the criticisms which they have offered on the present occasion will be borne in mind."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I am sure the House does not expect from me a long speech and that it is anxious to pass on to the much more eloquent speakers who will follow me. I shall therefore endeavour to be as brief as possible. The branches of administration on which I am on this occasion to answer for the Government begin with the subject of General Administration. Here at the outset I am rather diffident of saying much because the main criticism which was levelled against Government by members—I am not sure whether this criticism emanated from the other side alone or perhaps from both sides of the House—was with reference to the general futility of the Reformed Constitution. On that subject I do not feel that it would be useful for me to dilate at any length. I do not agree however that these budget discussions are devoid of any usefulness. It has been stated that these general discussions on the budget re of very little use and may be done away with. I venture to dissent

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from that because I think it is a very reasonable thing that all members of the House should have an opportunity of generally stating those aspects of the administration which in their opinion are susceptible of improvement. Government, though they may not be able to act on the views and suggestions of hon. Members of this House, assure the House that they treat them with the greatest respect and consideration and they often receive very much more examination than hon. Members give us credit for.

"Coming now to a more specific subject, we have the usual complaint regarding want of communal representation. Several members urged that their particular community is not represented in the Government service as it ought to be. This is a very difficult subject and we have at the instance of the House appointed a Committee which is examining the whole matter and no doubt they will, in time, make their report. I may tell however at once those who urge the recognition of their communities in the public service that it is quite impossible for the Government to arrange that every community, every caste and every sect shall be found some post or other in Government service. Without desiring in any way to embarrass the Committee in the writing of their report, I think I may say that it is very difficult for the Government to do work than to endeavour to secure that all persons are given equal opportunities of getting into public service and that no one community is allowed to monopolise appointments.

"In regard to higher appointments in regard to which demands are made that they should be filled in accordance with communal claims, I would ask the House to consider the justice of the claims of officers who are in Government service. We cannot pass over officers of long and proved service merely because they belong to a particular caste or community.

"The next general subject referred to is that of retrenchment. We are generally advised that in making retrenchments we should begin from the top and not from the bottom. That no doubt is theoretically a good rule but unfortunately if anybody will take up pencil and paper and work out the figures, he will find that retrenchment from the top does not effect as much saving as it does from the bottom. It is on account of the large number of subordinate appointments that the greatest expenditure is being incurred. I do not mean to suggest that subordinates are excessively paid or that they are excessive in number, but I would ask those who advocate immediate improvement in the salaries of subordinate officers to remember that an increase in the salaries of the subordinate staff involves the expenditure of a very large sum of money and that these subordinates have in recent years received increases in their salaries that are proportionately greater than those in any other branch of the public service. In the lowest ranks the increase was as much as 75 per cent.

4-30 p.m. "Another form of retrenchment that was suggested was a reduction of the units of administration, a reduction in the number of districts and taluks. This form of retrenchment I find has been pretty thoroughly explored in the last few years; every district was put under examination and proposals were made for either amalgamating it with the adjoining district or for reducing the number of divisions in it or reducing the number of taluks. In a few cases we were able to carry out some reduction. But in most we found considerable local opposition to any amalgamation of the kind. At present there is, I think, only one scheme pending and that relates to the

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Cuddapah district. The local representatives have however strongly opposed any reduction. The gentleman who suggested this kind of retrenchment comes from South Kanara and I find that in that district the proposal for a reduction in the number of taluks was gone into in consultation with the local officers and the local people three years ago and it was decided that there was no justification for abolishing any taluk. I do not know if the hon. Member from South Kanara has any new information or fresh grounds or new reasons for urging that the decision arrived at then was a mistake. Possibly he has not and anyway other members from that district apparently do not agree with him as they did not refer to the subject.

" Passing to the Revenue subjects that were referred to in the course of the speeches made, the most important reference was to the Land Revenue Bill. On that point I am sorry that we are not in a position to give the House any detailed information. The House is well aware of our limitations both as to our powers and as to the extent to which we can divulge the contents of correspondence with the Government of India. We are however in correspondence with them and I hope in a few days we shall be able to inform the House more fully as to the present state of the matter.

" One hon. Member referred, so far as I could understand him, to the fact that no budget provision had been made for remissions. I do not know what figures he referred to, but I may assure him that the budget conceals no sinister purpose as regards remissions which are regulated by rules which are made on that subject and the amount that is provided or not provided in the budget has nothing to do with the extent to which they are granted or refused.

" I am greatly indebted to my hon. Friend from Bellary for his good advice regarding the unwisdom of postponing or suspending collections. I am largely inclined to think with him to a considerable extent but I hope in translating his advice into action I will not run the risk of being blamed by him in future for hardheartedness.

" Another hon. Member remarked that there was no reduction under Survey and Settlement. Here again I am not sure what figures he was referring to. As a result largely of the criticisms of this House at the last budget time we examined the whole subject of procedure at settlement and issued certain instructions with the object of simplifying it with the result that nearly one lakh of rupees is saved under that head in the coming year. As regards survey we have not yet reduced the number of parties because there are certain areas that have to be resurveyed and I hope we have now seen the end of the districts of which re-survey will be necessary and we shall henceforth steadily reduce the number of parties till we get down to what shall be considered the nucleus which will be permanently necessary.

" Yet another criticism was that there was no provision for the restoration of village officers. The figures of the budget of course proceed on the present year's establishment. But as hon. Members were informed before the Village Officers Restoration Bill was passed, the condition was that the total cost will not be exceeded. So long as the money is within the budget there is no entry necessary in the budget for the purpose for it can be reappropriated to the revised numbers and the revised salaries of the village officers."

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" I wish to know whether the amount budgeted for will be sufficient to pay them at the old rate ; if not may I know at what rate."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Hon. Members are perfectly well aware that if we pay a lot of more people, so as not to exceed the total amount, we must pay them less. It follows as a matter of arithmetic."

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" How much will it work up to ? "

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I do not think I can go into the matter now. That was all stated during the discussion of the Bill. In any case the pledge to work up to the full amount was given and if unfortunately on an examination of the budget more critically it is found to fall short in any way we shall move the House for an additional grant. As far as I am aware, the full amount has been provided.

" There was another criticism in regard to the old and the new surveys. I must ask the House to forgive me if I do not enter into a detailed explanation of the case. It is very technical and I do not think I can satisfactorily explain it without diagrams or a blackboard or some such apparatus. I however assure the House that the Government have examined the matter and think that the present rules may possibly be applied in too meticulous a manner and the question of revising them so as to make the procedure simpler and to confine the interference of resurvey to more important cases is now being investigated.

"Next, in regard to Minor Irrigation, I am glad that the House is pleased that a larger provision has been made. But one hon. Member raised the question whether the pay of the establishment should not be raised and their strength increased. So long as the establishment is employed on the present scale of expenditure it is considered that no strengthening or increase in number would be justified. Of course if we are going to be able successfully to spend every year a larger amount than that we do now the question of strengthening the staff will no doubt arise and will be gone into.

" The only other matter of general interest which I can recollect is the question of the Agency Additional District and Sessions Judge. The question how best to provide for judicial work in the three agencies is being considered. We realise the advantage of having a court to deal with the cases but we are not satisfied at present that the statistics will justify the creation of a permanent appointment of this nature. We want more definite information on the point and no decision has as yet been come to.

" The hon. Member from Madura referred to the question of the deputy collectors. I am not quite able to follow the hon. Member. His assumption that these officers were at any time under the special orders of the Revenue Secretary is mistaken. There has been no change in the authority exercising control over these officers. It is the Government that appoints them, that transfers them, and the Board of Revenue has always had departmental control over them as over other divisional officers and Collectors. What is done now is, as has been explained in answer to a question put in this House, that the Board now reports the occurrence of vacancies and gets the orders of Government as to how they should be filled."

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* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I for one do not share the feeling that was expressed by more than one hon. Member of this House that discussions at this stage are futile. I regard this occasion as one in which the general policy pursued by the various departments of Government is criticised and the Members or Ministers in charge of the departments have on this occasion the best opportunity of defending their policy or advancing their ideas as to further lines of policy laid down or contemplated. From that point of view therefore I have welcomed the criticism that has been very impartially administered to the departments over which myself and my hon. Colleagues have varying degrees of control. But I for one cannot appreciate the criticisms of a mere ex-cathedra nature like those which emanated from one hon. Member yesterday who after referring to the alleged circumstance which by the way was not a fact that the Reserved departments had for some mysterious reason escaped censure and comment proceeded in the fashion adopted in Leviticus to make me a kind of scapegoat. Readers of the Old Testament will remember that on a particular day, the day of atonement, a goat was sacrificed and the sins of all the people were laid on him. Apparently my position is that of the subject of the sacrifice.

" I for one rejoice that by reason of the particular procedure adopted by that hon. Member, my hon. Colleagues to the right of me escape criticism which might under other conditions or other circumstances have been deserved by and administered to them (Laughter). Varying the imagery somewhat, in certain schools primitively conducted there is what is called the whipping boy. If anyone goes wrong there is one boy who is whipped. I for one am particularly pleased to occupy that position and take that responsibility. But what I do not appreciate is criticism of this kind: 'The hydro-electric scheme! the less said about it, the better.' That was the sum total of the criticism that emanated from an honourable and responsible Member of this House. I propose to deal with that matter, only premising that that particular Member during his visits to Ootacamund, if he had consulted persons resident in the Nilgiris like Mr. J. A. Davis or Dr. Nedungadi, might have ascertained what the people of the Nilgiris think of that scheme. Let me adumbrate that scheme at the risk of taking up a little more of your time than I had intended to do. Originally the idea of the Government was that the sources of hydro-electric power should be given over for exploitation to private enterprise, to be developed by private concessionnaires. Agreeably to the opinion which has latterly prevailed and which, I am glad to say, this House shares, the Government have now come to the conclusion that they should take the responsibility for and control over the development of the great water power resources of this Presidency. Mind this, Mr. President. The Government do not propose to market the power that is to be conserved and generated. For marketting, the organisation will be left in private hands, and here I may say that in this department we do not propose to swerve by a hair's breadth from the ideal laid down by Sir Alexander Macdougal and Mr. Wood, namely, that the Government ought not and in equity should not compete with private enterprise in regard to these matters. But in the initiation of a scheme which involves the expenditure of two to three crores of rupees which also contemplates the linking up of that source of water power with other sources of power, the total outlay coming to about 20 to 30 crores of rupees in course of time, it appeared to the Madras Government that perhaps the best plan

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was that the Government should initiate the enterprise and that the great public utility of electricity which is now readily appreciated at its proper value should become a State-controlled enterprise. It is from that point of view that a beginning had been made with the Pykara scheme. It is with that object that the concession granted toa concessionnaire has been resumed and purchased by the Government. It is with that object that the Government are now conducting a negotiation with the South Indian Railway Company which is now evincing a determination to electrify the South Indian Railway line from Trichinopoly to Madura and to use electric power for fast suburban service. Now, so far as this Pykara scheme is concerned, we have got these advantages. We have got the power easily available. That power can be supplied to Ootacamund, Wellington, Coonoor and to the Cordite Factory. It can be supplied to the mills at Coimbatore and Tiruppur, and it can go even up to Madras."

* Mr. K. Koti Reddi :—"Can it come to us, Sir?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar :—"It can, if linked with other sources of power. It can be utilized for the purpose of electrifying portions, at all events, of the South Indian Railway."

Mr. V. C. Vellingiri Gounder :—"May I know whether it will be given for agricultural purposes?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar :—"Now, it is from that point of view and, realizing that this source of water power is perhaps the most advantageously situated from every aspect as an object-lesson and a demonstration, that the Government have embarked on this scheme. And I am glad to say that, save for one dissenting voice, this House as a whole has approved of and agreed to the ideas underlying this scheme, and when we go before this House for a vote with reference to the other aspects of this matter, I am sure we shall receive constructive criticism from the Members of the House which the Government will always respect, as it does respect constructive criticism. Now with regard to the scheme itself, two or three suggestions have been made with which I shall very briefly deal. Mr. Gopal Menon very rightly points out the possibility of using electricity for alluminium manufacture and of the utilization of electric power in regard to soap manufacture. These are matters which have not till now attracted the attention of the Government, but I may say that they are not foreign to the objects which the Government have in view, and those suggestions will be borne in mind. Mr. Vellingiri Gounder, the hon. Member from Coimbatore, after welcoming the scheme, suggested that the power should be applied to farming purposes and well irrigation. One of the objects by which the Government is animated in regard to this question of the utilization of the water-power inherent in these waterfalls is to stimulate well irrigation and cottage industries. That is a matter which the Government has very much at heart. (Hear, hear.) The other hon. Member from Coimbatore, Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar advocated the training of Indians in the matter of hydro-electric enterprise. Now, Sir, I may at once say this, that certainly, I shall try to advance that object as far as in me lies. The object of the Government is to get the best expert possible to start it on the right lines, and make that expert train as many Indians as possible. That was

the way in which Japan started the great public utility enterprises, and that is the example which it has set for industrial progress, and it will not be forgotten.

"Now, I next deal with irrigation schemes, and in that connexion, let me at once refer to a reproach levelled at me for having paid too exclusive an advertance to the Mettur scheme. It was suggested that having budgeted for one crore of rupees for the Mettur scheme I had been wholly oblivious of the claims of the existing projects and the existing facilities for irrigation, that owing to a kind of megalomania I had concentrated upon some far-off idea and did not care about the irrigation works already started or in progress. Let me for the information of the House give a certain number of specific figures. Under budget head XIII-A—Extensions and Improvements, last year 2½ lakhs were budgeted for under productive works, and this year we have budgeted for 7 lakhs. Unproductive expenditure budgeted for last year was Rs. 25,000, and this year it is Rs. 95,000. Under maintenance and repairs (productive) we budgeted for 20 lakhs last year, and 24½ lakhs this year; for unproductive expenditure under the same head, we budgeted for 2 lakhs last year, and this year 2⅓ lakhs. Under works financed from ordinary revenues, we budgeted for 1·09 lakhs last year, and 1·37 lakhs this year. In the scheme of original works we have included the Polavaram scheme, 3 lakhs; Ellore and Bandar locks, 2 lakhs; Basavanna channel, 1½ lakhs; Vadavar improvements, 1¼ lakhs; Ayyavayyanar, 1 lakh; Vennar bed regulator, 1 lakh; Kilikudu, 2 lakhs; and Kattalai, 2½ lakhs. Now, Sir, a recital of these schemes must convince hon. Members of this House that the attention of the Government has not been concentrated upon one favoured spot. The hon. Member from Tinnevelly, I think, it was who referred to the favoured treatment of one district, or one portion of a district to the exclusion of the others. These districts I have enumerated cover almost the whole range of the Presidency. As to the Ceded districts I shall have something to say presently. Now, about Mettur, the hon. Member from Coimbatore referred to a change of site. With reference to that what I want to say is this. It has been put to us that geologically it might be better to change it by a mile or two so that we might eventually spend less money. We have not arrived at any conclusion on the question. The geological examination will further proceed and if we find that the deposits of rock at the other place suggested are such that it is better and more economical, we shall embark upon a change. But no such change will be embarked upon unless the necessity for such a change is absolutely and conclusively proved."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"As a matter of personal explanation, may I say that I also wanted in that connexion to know whether the house-sites and other places purchased are to be given up to the owners?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"In regard to these personal explanations, may I say that merely prefacing a number of remarks with the words 'personal explanation' does not bring them within the range of personal explanation." (Laughter.)

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Now, Sir, as to these acquisitions, let me say what the policy of the Government is. The policy of the Government is to acquire lands at least a year before they are required so

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that there might be time for those people whose lands, houses or buildings are acquired to shift to other places and make other arrangements. My hon. Friend from Coimbatore suggested two years. We considered that that period was too long and therefore we fixed it at one year. Also I may say that, notwithstanding acquisition, the orders of the Government are that no person is to be disturbed from his holding, is to be asked to go away, unless and until his land is required for the purpose of starting the head works or executing any other schemes. These are the principles underlying acquisition with regard to the Mettur project.

"Now, Sir, various hon. Members have complained that their particular districts have not got their irrigation schemes advanced. I grant that almost every district has got a big headway to make in the matter of irrigation. Whichever other Reserved subject may be called nation-building or whichever may not be, I do not think it can be gainsaid that irrigation is in every sense a nation-building department from the point of view of an agricultural country like ours. In almost every district there are large schemes waiting for initiation or extension or improvement, and nobody is more alive to that fact than the Government. But as a matter of fact, if I give a list of the projects referred to by my hon. Friends Messrs. Peddiraju, Ramachandra Reddi, Sitarama Reddi, Arpudaswami Udaiyar, Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai, Bhanoji Rao, Khalif-ul-lah Sahib, Ramaswami Mudaliyar and others, I should have probably given 50 to 60 schemes. But we have not got enough money for all of them. I wish we had. But all that I can say is that in the order of their urgency attempts will be made to tackle all those schemes.

"I shall now deal with Ceded districts projects. It was stated, and I think, in an impassioned and vehement tone by an hon. Member from the Ceded districts that whereas Government is anxious to further the interests of very rich and fertile tracts like Tanjore and Trichinopoly, they do not pay much attention to the Ceded districts. Now, Sir, I wish to repel that charge. The difficulty as to Ceded districts has been as hon. Members coming from those districts know, that small schemes are not of much use. It may be that here and there, there are isolated small schemes, such as the one referred to by my hon. Friend Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, that may be useful. But the history of irrigation projects in the Ceded districts, if it teaches anything, it teaches us this: that taking up sporadically isolated projects in a country where the rainfall is scanty is bound to result in failure. In fact 60 to 70 per cent of the schemes which have been started in the Ceded districts have resulted in failure. And why? Because for some reason or other the only and obvious solution had not been attempted, namely, to bring water into those districts from a place which has and which can command, a perennial source of water such as Tungabhadra or Kistna."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"When I referred to the particular scheme, Sir, I adverted to taking up water from a perennial river, namely, the Hagari."

* The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar :—"I think my hon. Friend will confess, none more readily than he, that there are not many perennial rivers in the Ceded districts, and all that I have been saying is that in the Ceded districts this difficulty is very important and another important difficulty is the scantiness of the rainfall and the nature of the soil; and the second factor especially has been very powerful in making the Government reluctant

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to start on a scheme whose success is doubtful. Not only this, but the Government cannot fail to realize that the schemes which they have started have absolutely failed. I think hon. Members from the Ceded districts know that there are schemes upon schemes which have been started and where the reservoirs that have been designed are now bare and empty and, as somebody remarked, grain can be poured into these reservoirs. It is in order to arrange for the bringing of water from outside from a perennial source that the Government sought the advice and assistance of the Ceded Districts Irrigation Advisory Committee. Their preliminary report has come to us, and that preliminary report confirms the idea of the Government, and the Committee which is representative of all the concerned districts are wholly in favour of starting a really big work like the Tungabhadra or Kistna project, bringing water from outside to fertilise the tracts in the Ceded districts. That is a very big matter. The Government, however, will not 5 p.m. omit consideration of it or fail to bear that in mind. Now, Sir, the hon. Member representing the City of Madras referred to the Cooum. We who have to live a long time in these buildings—6 or 7 hours a day—know that the Cooum is capable of improvement and that its odour is penetrating. But when he attacks the Government for having spoilt the Cooum by leading the Penitentiary and the General Hospital sewage into it, as a person that ought to know better, if I may venture on that expression, he forgot or omitted to observe the sewage of Chintadripet."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—" I admitted."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" And that is not a very small factor in the sum total of the stink. Now, Sir, with regard to the Cooum, Government is prepared to start dredging operations. But they expect, and in this I make an appeal to the hon. Member for the City that they legitimately expect, the Corporation to share the cost. I trust that the negotiations between the Corporation and the Government will end more fruitfully now than the negotiations in the past. I trust the powerful advocacy which was utilized yesterday by the hon. Member for the City of Madras will be utilized in his own Corporation chambers for the purpose of pointing out that, if some money is paid by the Corporation, Government will lend its helping hand in getting the Cooum cleared of its stink and its sewage.

" Mr. Muttayya Mudaliyar referred to the Buckingham canal and suggested that, if necessary, dredgers might be used to make the waterway effective. Rupees 2½ lakhs has been allotted to the Buckingham canal and it is not possible to do more because it now carries much less traffic every day than before. Hon. Members will realize that there is no use in trying to retrace our step.

" Now, Sir, with your permission let me deal with the criticism which emanated from the hon. the Leader of the Opposition. He protested against the expenditure on Mettur and in this he was also helped by the powerful voice of the hon. Member for Chingleput who raised the same protest. My hon. Friend from Malabar—I do not see him here now—wanted to know the mystery which enveloped the possibility of going on with the Mettur project when the Irrigation Bill was not passed. Let me narrate the history briefly. The scheme of that project of legislation is that the present rights of Government in the matter of raising revenue by means of water-rate

remain unaffected until after the passing of the projected legislation into law and thereafter as long as no change is made in the present rates. When any revision or reconsideration of the existing rates becomes necessary, the Council will deal with the subject on the introduction of a Taxation Bill. This House was consulted on this matter of Mettur on the 18th August 1924. I think the House will remember that the resolution passed by this House unanimously was that this Council approves of the proposal to construct a reservoir on the river Cauvery at Mettur in the Coimbatore district, with the necessary channels and other works, to improve the supply to existing irrigation under the river and to provide for new irrigation over an approximate area of 301,000 acres, at an estimated cost of Rs. 612 lakhs. Amongst the papers laid on the table of the House for the purpose, and during the course of discussion on that resolution were the financial estimates which proceeded on the basis of the levy of water-rates of Rs. 15 and Rs. 7-8-0 for first and second crop respectively. The Board of Revenue has expressed its views on the matter and we do not propose to go back. As a matter of fact, in the new tract, hon. Members living in that quarter know that the people are only too anxious to avail themselves of water, that Pattukottai is a fertile tract which requires and deserves irrigation facilities and people are willing to pay for the water and that the alternative is perfectly clear that if they will not pay then the distributary channels can be remodelled. We do not yet apprehend any difficulty about that matter and it is because of the lack of any such apprehension that we have proceeded with the work. Now I cannot deal with that subject more fully and I will go on to the other subjects.

"My hon. Friend from Malabar and certain other hon. Members attacked me for the supineness of the Government with respect to the separation of the judicial and executive functions. If they had remembered the discussion in the Bihar and Orissa Legislative Council, if they had followed the statements made by the Government of India in the Legislative Assembly and if they had scrutinized the questions put in the House of Commons, Sir, they would have realized that it is not a matter with which the Madras Government has much to do at this stage. Our proposals have gone up to the Government of India and the Secretary of State is in touch with the Government of India. Surely it is unreasonable to blame this Government particularly with regard to a matter which is all-India in character and the result or decision of which depends much more on the Right hon. the Secretary of State than upon this Government—not only much more, but almost exclusively upon them rather than upon us.

"Then Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar remarked that we were making the judicial administration a source of revenue. As that debate has arisen quite often and that statement has been made more than once, I have got certain figures prepared on this question. This is the position: the receipt in budget estimates of Law and Justice were 1,57,88,400; establishment charges 98,70,400, district administration 58,23,690, judicial stamps 1,70,700; charges under pension 9,44,700; charges under stationery and printing 2,50,000; supervision by Government and Secretariat 75,000; total is 1,71,34,490; so that it works at a deficit of about 16 lakhs and not at a surplus. There it cannot be said that we are making out of Law and Justice any profit. Now, Sir, another hon. Member referred to the Civil Courts Act

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and wanted to know what had been done with it. I may say that as a result of the passing of that Act the retrenchment that will be effected on account of the temporary district munsif and subordinate judges is Rs. 44,540. It therefore shows that the Civil Courts Act is a powerful instrument of retrenchment as was originally contemplated.

"My hon. Friend from Nellore, Mr. Krishna Rao, wanted to know why the report of the Estates Land Act Committee was not ready. He would realize, none more than he, the many varied interests that have to be reconciled in order to elucidate the question and to evolve a new law and I am sure he will not blame the Government when they take all the time that is needed in order to effect a reconciliation of those interests.

"Now, two other questions were raised, viz., the Official Referee and the temporary judges. As to the Official Referee all that I can say is that this hon. House dealt with this question in December 1924 when all the aspects of it were put before the House. I may only quote what the hon. Member Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar said in finally voting for the grant.

"He said:

'Well, Sir, we shall realize that on such peculiar matters which are so peculiarly within the jurisdiction of the High Court, the opinion of the hon. Judges should weigh with us in this House. And therefore when the judges have considered the case made out by this Legislative Council and have come to the conclusion that this office should be retained, I do not think that it would be fair to the hon. Judges themselves that this House should vote against this motion.'

"On the 18th December 1924 this House voted in favour of this motion. Hon. Judges have taken action on the lines suggested by me, viz., they have reduced the fees and allowed vakil's fees to those who appeared before the Official Referee. As for the question of temporary judges I do not know whether the Members of the House contemplate with equanimity the spectacle of cases pending for two years. It is not my purpose nor have I the time to dwell on the consequences that would result by the delay. But the point is this. There are ready 542 appeals on the 1st November 1925, Second Appeals 1705, and O.S. appeals and City Civil Court Appeals about 300 not to speak of the criminal work. In addition to that, on the original side there are 788 civil suits. The Government considered that matter and came to the conclusion that until these arrears are wiped out and the reproach is obviated that justice is very tardy in the High Court we had no other alternative but to keep the strength at the present level.

"My hon. Friend from Anantapur referred to punitive police in the Cuddapah district. There is no such fear there.

"With regard to the Pondicherry incident as to which something was said let me again reiterate the proposition that this Government has not directly or indirectly instructed the French Police to pursue any such course as is now complained of. With regard to the political aspects of the matter my hon. Friend, Mr. Moir, who holds that portfolio, will later answer. But in regard to the police let me deny that charge of having instructed the French Police. I have travelled in the Continent of Europe and the restrictions imposed on travellers who have to go through certain formalities are not negligible. (Voices: 'That was war time.') All that I can say is that one need not be surprised at being held up. Moreover we are not responsible for the procedure. I only want to assure this House that we are not responsible for it and that our police had no instruction in the matter. Now,

Sir, an observation was made as to the topheaviness of the police and the expenditure on the police. We expect in the police an ultimate retrenchment of 15 lakhs. That is not a small retrenchment: It is a retrenchment for which we, if not entitled to credit, are at least not entitled to reproach. (Voice: 'Is it in 1926-27?') That is all that I have got to say.

"I thank the House for their patience."

5-15 p.m. * The hon. Mr. T. E. Moir:—"Sir, like more than one of my hon. Colleagues, I too dissent from the view that the discussion which takes place annually on our Budget is of no use. For my part, I have listened to this debate for three days with the greatest interest and my complaint is not that there is so little matter to deal with but that there is so much. But let me assure the House that I do not propose to trespass upon its patience longer than is necessary. Much of the discussion has centered round administrative issues, with which it is true I am indirectly concerned, because almost every point raises some financial issue. But having listened to the very eloquent and able exposition of their policy and their intentions which have been given by my hon. Colleagues, I propose to confine myself entirely to certain matters which more directly concern financial policy, or the method, or the doings of the Finance Department.

"Before I turn to that, however, I might dispose of the one purely administrative issue with which I am concerned in another function rather than that of Finance Member, namely, that to which my hon. Colleague referred when he mentioned the Pondicherry incident. I wish to deal with that question with as much restraint as possible. For that purpose, I think, it is perhaps necessary that some reference should be made to what has appeared in the newspapers. I have in my hand a copy of what I understand to be the statement sent to the press by the hon. Member from Coimbatore. I wish to read two short extracts from that communication. One is, 'The Deputy Commissioner took me to another room where I was asked to go through a treatment to which no human being in any civilized country would willingly submit.' Another is, 'It is a shameful humiliation to the French Government which pretends to give a safe asylum to political suspects of other nations but puts their visitors to all indignities.' Sir, the hon. Member is entitled as a Member of this House to make such accusations as he sees fit against the Government under which he lives. But these statements, Sir, are directed against the Government of a great and friendly power. and I can only suppose that in making these statements the hon. Member forgot that there is, in the case of Members of a Legislative Council of one country, a need to express themselves with some moderation and restraint when making a reference to the Government of a foreign country. I would not have referred to it, if it were not necessary for me on behalf of the Madras Government entirely to dissociate ourselves from any such reflections."

Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar:—"On a matter of personal explanation, Sir. I must say that I made those remarks with regard to the French Government because it was the French Government that treated me so badly, and I still adhere to what I said. I did not mean that the Madras Government should share with me the same opinion at all."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. Moir:—"That is exactly why I am saying that it is necessary for me on behalf of the Madras Government entirely to dissociate ourselves from the statements and allegations which have been brought

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against the French Government by a Member of this House. If I might offer a word of advice to the hon. Member, I would point out that after all although the territory of Pondicherry is a comparatively small area in relation to the extent of the Madras Presidency, it is still an integral part of French territory. It is subject to French laws and to the French Parliament. I would suggest to him that it is incumbent on any one who enters the territory of a foreign and friendly power to submit himself to their regulations. I am perfectly certain that the French Government have no desire in any way in pursuance of their regulations to subject any member or any subject of His Majesty's dominions to unnecessary restraint. But I will only say this: that when statements of this kind are made in the press by one who after all has a certain responsibility in these matters, it does not make the task of those who are responsible for conducting political relations with other countries in the sphere of their sovereign authority any the easier.

" Now, Sir, to return to the budget, I can only express my warm thanks to the many Members of this House who have made such kind references to the little share that I have had in its production. There were two observations which more than one Member made which I very much welcomed. One was the expression of the view that the budget attempted in no respect to conceal or modify the actual facts. That, at any rate, is one aim with which I set out. The other was, that it was reasonably clear and lucid. That was also another object I had in view. But what I did appreciate very much more was that generous endorsement of the gratitude which I have expressed to the Finance Department and its Secretary, to which many Members of the House contributed. But, Sir, although hon. Members were good enough to express their satisfaction with those aspects of the budget, satisfaction, I think, in other aspects, was not quite so general, and, if occasionally I refer to individual speeches, it is more because they represent perhaps some of the general arguments or criticisms which were apparent from the speeches of other Members also.

" Mr. Srinivasa Ayyangar expressed some doubt as to what I meant exactly when I said that I regretted that I had not been able to place before this Council a more attractive picture of our financial position. Well, when I referred to my speech in order to answer his question, I found that I had used a rhetorical figure of speech known as 'meiosis' and to refresh my memory as to what that figure implied, I looked up a dictionary and found that it was 'an ironically moderate form of speech'. Well, Sir, I am incapable of irony, but I admit that it was a moderate form of speech. It may be constructed either as moderate satisfaction or moderate dissatisfaction (laughter). This is so far as I am concerned, I am afraid that in the case of some Members of this House their feelings ranged from considerable dissatisfaction to a state of profound gloom and despondency. Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar delivered an attack, of which I do not complain at all, on the method in which the budget had been produced. He objected entirely to the way in which we have gone about preparing this budget. He objected to schemes being considered in advance, or to any anticipation of revenue, which might or might not be placed at our disposal. He also commented on the haphazard manner in which schemes for the budget are put forward. Now, that, at any rate, is not a charge which can justly be brought against us. Throughout the whole course of one financial year each department is

busy considering what administrative developments or extensions are demanded or required in the following year. These schemes are all subject to scrutiny by the Finance Department, with reference to ensuring that economy is strictly observed. They are scrutinized by the Finance Committee with reference not only to that consideration but also with reference to whether they are justified in view of such anticipations as can be made of the financial position. They are then placed before the Cabinet, and then finally before the Legislative Council. If they decide to include provision beyond what it is anticipated will be the actual revenues of the coming year, they consider how far they are justified in allowing administrative or other reasons to overrule considerations which are strictly financial. Now, we have gone as far as we considered we were justified in this respect, and criticism has, I think, been mainly directed to the suggestion of alternative schemes for the utilization of these resources rather than to our rashness in proposing to spend so much.

5-30 p.m. "Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar said that some amount, unspecified, should be swallowed up by introducing a part measure of prohibition, and that another considerable sum of half a crore or so should go in reduction of court-fees and stamp duties. That of course is a possible policy, but its acceptance would mean not only that all the additional schemes on which 72 lakhs is proposed to be spent in the coming year should go by the board, but also that the existing expenditure should be curtailed. I doubt if either side of the House would really endorse the results of that policy.

"Mr. Srinivasa Ayyangar stated that out of 72½ lakhs on new schemes, only 33 lakhs go to nation-building departments and asked why the whole of the 57 lakhs has not been earmarked for the development of nation-building departments. I may point that the actual correct figures are 49·70 lakhs for the Transferred departments and 22·85 lakhs for the Reserved departments. But if you turn to the expenditure under the Reserved departments you will find that of the 22·85 lakhs, 4·17 lakhs relate to irrigation—this is intended almost entirely for repairs to minor irrigation works—nearl 3¾ lakhs are for the nation-building activities of the Labour department, about 2½ lakhs for education and other improvements in the Agency. Nearly 2 lakhs are required for improvements in jails, 1½ lakhs are to be utilized for forest development, and even of the small balance of less than 5 lakhs for civil works in connexion with the Reserved departments, 1·10 lakhs is earmarked for additions and alterations to the Legislative Council and Secretariat buildings, improvements the need of which had been pressed on the Government again and again by the Members of this House. Four lakhs alone are made available for the needs of large administrative departments, including the Police, a department in respect of which the programme for the housing of constables—a much needed programme—has been reduced and delayed to a most undesirable extent. Now, Mr. Srinivasa Ayyangar merely fell into an arithmetical error to which several other Members of the House succumbed. But is it possible to say the same with respect to the speech of Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chettiyar? I would quote his pronouncement on this question of the expenditure on the Reserved and Transferred halves of the Government. 'My enthusiasm to get the remission of the provincial contributions is slowly cooling down in view of the fact that not even a small portion of this huge sum of money is devoted to or

spent on the nation-building departments as was originally promised.' That is a criticism of a type which I consider merits the remarks which was passed on a similar criticism of another item, by my hon. Colleague the Law Member. I have in view of that criticism attempted to get some figures which would give the Council some rough idea of what actually has happened to the increase in our revenues or in our expenditure since the year 1920-21. The total increase in expenditure is somewhat in the neighbourhood of 349 lakhs. Of that increase a sum of about 80 lakhs represent the balance of expenditure which had still to be incurred in respect of the revision of salaries. Taking figures as a whole, the actual increase in expenditure under the main Transferred departments is something between 150 and 160 lakhs. Under the main administrative departments, such as General Administration, Police, Justice, there is an increase of 71 lakhs, and under those of what may be called nation-building departments which are entrusted to the Reserved half, irrigation and the Labour department, there has been an increase of 34 lakhs, while the common charges relating to pensions, stationery and printing and various minor items make up the rest of the total. But roughly, under the main Transferred departments, as far as I can see, there has been an increase of expenditure amounting to 43 per cent of the sum spent in 1920-21, while under the main Reserved departments the increase has been only 13 per cent. I propose to have the figures further verified and more fully elaborated, but while there may be a difference of opinion as to whether the distribution is correct or the most desirable that we can have, I cannot see how it can fairly be said by the hon. Member from Madras that nothing of our increased expenditure has been devoted to the Transferred or nation-building departments.

"I would further seriously ask this Council to consider whether this fetish of the division between the Reserved and Transferred halves is not being overdone. The Government of a country is in essence one and indivisible and a transitory constitutional device ought not to be allowed to obscure that fact. Every Member of this House looks forward to the time when that essential unity shall be restored (hear, hear), and when not only the 'Transferred' subjects but also the 'Reserved' subjects shall be subject to the same measure of control by the Legislative Council of this Presidency (hear, hear). We on the 'Reserved' side are in the meanwhile responsible within certain limits for the administration of certain important departments. Our responsibility is two-fold: it is not only to the British Parliament but it is also towards those who will be the reversioners of the interests placed in our charge (laughter). Those interests are as essential to the good government of the country as are the 'Transferred' departments. We should have ill discharged our responsibility if, when we are called upon to relinquish them, those reversioners to whom I have referred should have cause to complain, that we handed over to them a revenue system which failed to produce revenue, a judicial system which inspired no confidence or failed to give prompt and unquestioned justice and a police department which was incapable of or inadequate to maintain law and order. I would remind hon. Members of the fact that even in respect of what has been termed the prosperity of the rural classes and the general advancement of certain parts of the Presidency or sections of the population, we have a considerable responsibility which we are endeavouring to discharge to the best of our ability. May I take as an example a disaster to which I referred

more than once in my budget speech, the floods in Tanjore and Trichinopoly districts? Not only were irrigation works seriously damaged but bridges and communications were destroyed. In the opinion of hon. Members, which ought to have been our first concern—restoration of irrigation and protective works on which the prosperity and the livelihood of thousands of ryots depended or the reconstruction of the bridges which had gone down in the floods? To my mind, there can be only one answer, restoration of irrigation works must take precedence of bridges. If, however, the argument drawn from the division into Reserved and Transferred subjects were unduly pressed, that will be a wrong view, and what we ought to do in such cases is to devote our resources to the restoration of bridges. As a matter of fact, we propose to do both, and that we attempt to do so is one of our justifications for the large measure of expenditure to which some hon Members have taken exception. And I may add that in doing so we have the concurrence of our hon. Colleagues the Ministers.

"One other criticism which was made during the discussion, or one idea which seems to run through the discussion was that somehow or other, within the limits of our present expenditure, we may be able to build the new Jerusalem in this province. I am entirely unable to accept that view that we may by due economy and constant watchfulness be able to make our existing revenues go further than they do, but I am perfectly certain that the younger Members of this House—we shall not see it—will see a time when the Finance Member in this House will present a budget, not for 16 or 17 crores but for 32 or 34 crores, and even then the requirements of the Presidency will by no means have been met. I may refer just to two points which were raised by Mr. Gopala Menon. They were interesting points and of considerable importance to the Finance Department. He drew attention to the question of customs duty. He says that it is most unfair that the Central Government should by adjustment take away that item because they are giving us a remission of the provincial contributions, and it only means that the Central Government is taking away from us with one hand what they are giving with the other. Personally, I think there is some basis for Mr. Gopala Menon's criticism. All I can now say is that we have laid our protest and we are awaiting a reply. He then drew attention to a motion made in the Legislative Council of a neighbouring presidency, and on that he based the hope that we might find assistance from that source in pressing the demand for further reduction of our contributions. Personally, I am not quite so sure that the sister presidencies look at this
5-45 p.m. question of the remission of the contributions from the same point of view as we do. But I can assure the hon. Member that when the time comes we shall look round and readily grasp the hand of any province which is willing to assist us in continuing our fight.

"Attention has been drawn to the fact that certain items which were hitherto being treated as 'voted' are now shown as 'non-voted'. This I may briefly explain is due to the operation of the Civil Services Act. There are some points still under reference as to exactly which items are to be 'non-voted' and there may be some changes to be incorporated in the final edition of the budget. But the Act is the reason for the changes noted.

"Mr. Bhanoji Rao said that he did not fully understand the principles which have been adopted in respect of loans. I do not want at this late hour to weary the House with a detailed exposition of what he quite rightly

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termed 'the apparent changes' of opinion in this matter which have occurred in the course of the last few years. It is of course rather tempting to get into debt (laughter) and it is also rather tempting to try and conceal the fact if you can do so. Opinions necessarily vary as to the extent within which it is legitimate to show expenditure under capital heads or whether it ought properly to be shown under revenue deficit. My opinion on this matter has perhaps somewhat varied from that of my predecessors. But it seems to me that it was much better definitely to show non-assets under the revenue deficit. There is a certain amount of expenditure with reference to which whether it should appear under the revenue deficit or might legitimately be debited under capital heads is at least an open question. But I may add that from the financial point of view it makes not the slightest difference. Where the head under which we borrow money is say a building programme which is not a productive asset, whether we show it under the revenue deficit or under capital head makes no difference to our financial position whatsoever. The amount that we borrow is the same and the amount that we have to repay in the shape of principal and interest by annual instalments, is exactly the same.

"I have I think sufficiently dissociated myself from the more pessimistic views as to our financial future and prospects. I do not wish to disguise from the House that it is a question which does give me some anxiety, but we have in the past adopted a somewhat optimistic policy and personally I am prepared to stand by the proposals which are placed before the House in the budget for the coming year. I could, however, have wished that more appreciation had been shown in some quarters for what has been accomplished in the last few years.

"One hon. Member said that the position of the Finance Member was that of the sun round which revolve, I was not quite sure whether it was, a series of orderly planets or a series of erratic and explosive comets, but I am afraid I can claim no such position in our solar system. The duty of the Finance Department and of the Finance Member is to be at the service of his Colleagues. I admit that sometimes I toil after them in vain breathlessly saying, 'Gently, brother pray' (laughter). But I should like to say this: surely apart from all personal differences or all party differences, in the history of the past few years there is something in which we all may take a legitimate pride. Things have advanced. For example, opportunities of education and medical aid are, thanks to the energy and persistence of my hon. Colleagues, open to a wider circle of the population. That is something good and a gain to all parts of the Presidency and to all sections of this House. And I can only express the hope that we shall in the coming year return to that prosperity which an uneventful year of good crops and the absence of any public calamities confers. For, in that case I feel perfectly certain that when it comes to a close we shall have made still further advance and be ready to make a still further advance no matter under whose auspices it may be conducted." (Applause.)

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The House will now adjourn and meet again on Tuesday, the 16th of this month at 11 o'clock."

The House accordingly adjourned.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

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